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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE most critical moment, both in the contest which is desolating America and in the negotiations which now, from day to day, may plunge all Europe into war, seems really to have arrived. Strangely enough, most of the news that reaches us

as to the proceedings of the Conference—and, indeed, as to the negotiations and political doings of all kinds in connection with the Danish question—is supplied by the foreign journals. Thus, the newspapers of Frankfurt, the capital of the Germanic Confederation, were the first to publish the "project of conciliation" brought forward by England and supported by France, according to which Holstein, Lauenburg, and the southern part of Schleswig are to be entirely separated from Denmark on condition of Austria, Prussia, and the Confederation renouncing all right to interfere in the internal affairs of the country. *La France* told us confidently on Tuesday last what line of demarkation England would propose at the meeting of the Conference to be held on Thursday, adding, at the same time, that Denmark would not accept it; and *Le Pays*, of the same date, took upon itself to state that the English Channel Fleet had left Plymouth for Spithead in order to be in readiness to proceed to the Baltic. In the meanwhile we hear very little as to the progress of events from our own Government. A dignified silence is maintained in the British Parliament on the very subjects concerning which every

Continental journal of anything like a position seems to be kept regularly informed. All we know for certain is that, just as the result of our interference in Polish affairs has been the destruction, the total disorganisation, of Poland, so the end of our negotiations on behalf of Denmark, and of the

advice we have tendered to the Danes, will be the dismemberment of the Danish monarchy.

"Don't blame us unless you are sure you could have done better yourselves," is Lord Palmerston's invariable reply whenever the foreign policy of the present Cabinet is attacked. But,

has been as bad as possible. Had he been either more warlike or more peaceful he would not have placed the country in the discreditable position in which it now stands; but, in his endeavour to avoid compromising himself either with his supporters at home or with the despotic

Governments abroad, he has compromised England as a European Power. It is usual to throw the blame of all this upon poor Earl Russell, as if the most important of Earl Russell's despatches had not been shown to his chief before being sent off; but Lord Palmerston, to do him justice, has more than once declared that not the Foreign Minister alone, but the whole of the Cabinet, must be held responsible for that Cabinet's foreign policy. Lord Palmerston, with less ingenuousness, is also in the habit of stating that during the negotiations of the last twelve months—first with Russia and afterwards with Austria and Prussia—the only alternative lay between remaining at peace, as he has done, and going to war, which no one—not even his bitterest opponents—wished him to do. This, however, is not a fair presentment of the case. The charge against him is, not that he has been unable to gain concessions for the Poles—not that he has been unable to preserve the integrity of the Danish monarchy—but that, in his awkward endeavours to attain these ends, he has brought England into contempt; and that the failure of his representations in support of Denmark was a direct



"THE RETURNED LOVE-LETTERS."—(FROM A PICTURE BY MRS. F. L. BRIDELL, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

according to this style of reasoning, every conceivable party must have a right to attack Lord Palmerston's Government—on the ground that, whether they could have managed foreign affairs better or not, they most certainly could not have managed them worse. Lord Palmerston's policy

consequence of his feeble and really unprincipled policy in respect to Poland.

A Ministry professing no sympathy for oppressed nations would have left the Poles to their fate—and that fate would at least have been more tolerable than it is now when all



Poland has been excited to resist an irresistible and implacable foe, which, as soon as it has been well provoked, is left to deal with its victims just as it pleases. On the other hand, a Liberal Ministry, professing a peace-at-any-price policy, would, for different reasons, have also refused to interfere between Russians and Poles; or, if it had interfered, would at least have done so in a conciliatory and not in a minatory manner. This, no doubt, would have been the true policy to follow. It would neither have irritated the Russians nor have encouraged the Poles, nor should we have exposed ourselves to any humiliation; whereas, as it is, England has been insulted and her character lowered, while those whom we wished to benefit have been most deeply injured by our attentions.

After the termination of the Polish correspondence—after the withdrawal of Earl Russell's menacing despatch and the substitution of a half-complimentary one in its place—it was, indeed, impossible to do anything for the Danes. England (as represented by Lords Palmerston and Russell), had been found out, and her prestige, for a time at least, had departed. The character of England at the beginning of 1863, was very different from what it had become by the time when Denmark was first seriously threatened with invasion; and for this change—for this loss—the present Government have to be thanked. To ask what any other Government would have done in their place is to go away from the question. A bad rider who gets thrown, an unskilful sea captain who gets wrecked, may console themselves by saying that what happened to them might have happened to anyone else; but, if they have shown themselves in some respects timid, in others rash, and in all awkward, no one will exculpate them on the simple ground that there are many as incapable persons as they in the world.

### THE RETURNED LOVE-LETTERS.

MRS. F. L. BRIDELL has selected for the subject of her picture in this year's exhibition at the Royal Academy a telling passage from a fine poem of Tennyson's, published at the end of "Maud." The poet has described in it with great subtlety the conflict of varied emotions in the breasts of two estranged lovers, who have met to return the now valueless love-tokens that had passed between them. But the result of the meeting is, as might be expected, that they add one more illustration to a long list of the truth of the old song's burden:—

The falling out of faithful friends  
The renewing is of love!

The fair artist has most felicitously chosen the moment when the disdainful beauty returns her swain's letters, with a careless air which would fain impress him with a belief that she never valued them. We, however, can peep into the ivory casket, and know better. She has been treasuring them with a miniature, some withered flowers, and those other little mementoes by which Love sets such unbounded store. She stands tossing back her head defiantly, and holds out the letters with an angry grace and dignity very pleasant to observe. Her face is very beautiful, and has, partly owing to the easy negligence with which her hair is arranged, a most delicious piquancy. The rich material and the mellow colour of her dress add to the beauty of the picture and enhance the charm of her attitude and expression. The quaint fashion of her bodice, with the little ruche encircling her fair throat, prove how the value of art is enhanced by feminine taste in the details. It is plain, at a glance, that her lover must succumb. He could not possibly resist such beauty and the pleading of her eyes, despite their angry flashes—more summer lightning presaging a shower.

The picture has many excellent qualities. It shows a happy feeling for what is agreeable in colour, excellent drawing and composition, and a complete mastery of all the technicalities of art.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

Paris was thrown into a state of great excitement last week owing to a rumour that the Emperor had been upset in a boat at Fontainebleau and seriously hurt by a blow on the head, inflicted by an oar thrown out to save him. On Saturday the true version of the circumstance was received, and it fortunately turned out that his Majesty neither fell nor received any injury, but only showed his agility by jumping ashore when the boat, which lurched, was filling with water.

The meeting of the Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia at Kissingen is now dividing public attention in Paris with the Danish question. Politicians are agreed that something more than the "water-cure" is the object of the meeting of the three Potentates. Taking into consideration the fact that, simultaneous with their presence, the attendance of Prince Gortschakoff, Count Rechberg, and Baron Bismarck is also announced, the probability seems strong that a political understanding of some nature is aimed at by the three Courts. France, it is said, naturally looks with some degree of distrust on this gathering. Report has it that another attempt will be made by the Emperor to revive his scheme for a European Conference, in the belief that his project would meet with more support now than when it was first propounded.

The suppression of the insurrection in Algeria is stated to be rapidly progressing. The Marabout Si-El-Azery, one of the leaders, has been killed, and dissension in the ranks of the Arabs has since broken out. Various successes of the French troops are reported.

The arrangements rendered necessary by the death of Marshal Pelissier are said to be now decided. Marshal M'Mahon, Duke of Magenta, goes out as Governor-General; General Desvaux, at present commanding in chief the province of Constantine, is to be named Deputy-Governor; General Nesmes-Damants to be Commandant of Constantine, *vice* Desvaux; and General Martimprey to be recalled and named Senator.

### ITALY.

The Minister of Finance communicated to the Chamber of Deputies on the 9th inst. the probable estimates of the revenue and expenditure for 1865. The ordinary expenses are estimated at 747,359,368 lire, and the ordinary revenue at 564,063,107 lire; the extraordinary expenditure at 106,470,266 lire, and the revenue from extraordinary sources at 61,437,611 lire. The deficit is less by 24,000,000 lire than that of 1864.

### RUSSIA.

It is reported from Vienna that Russia is endeavouring to conclude with Austria and Prussia a treaty by which the three Powers would guarantee to each other the possession of their respective Polish provinces.

### TUNIS.

The insurrection in Tunis appears to assume proportions more and more serious. Great agitation and alarm prevail in the capital. The Vice-Consuls, with the exception of that of England, had gone on board the ships of their respective nations. The Bedouins were disposed to recognise the sovereignty of the Porte and to request the abolition of the regency. Some of the ships in port had been assailed by Tunis pirates.

### CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Imperial troops continue to obtain successes over the rebels in China, and it was thought that the great Taiping movement or rebellion would soon be extinguished, although fears were entertained that the rebels may for a length of time continue to carry on marauding operations in the southern provinces of the empire.

In Japan it was asserted that the Council of Daimios had agreed upon a peaceful policy with foreigners, and had left the seaports and returned to their provinces. The Mikado himself is in favour of a more extended intercourse.

### THE DANISH QUESTION.

ALTHOUGH our Government preserves a rigid silence as to the proceedings of the Conference, the same course does not appear to be followed by the other Powers represented in it—at least, if we may judge by the fact that the French and German newspapers, especially the latter, are filled with reports of what has transpired at the several sittings. The point of difference at present, it seems, is as to where to draw a line through Schleswig so as to separate the portion of that duchy which shall become German from that which Denmark shall be allowed to retain. The German Powers are alleged to claim the whole duchy, while the neutrals and Denmark will not concede this. Compromises of various kinds have been proposed, that by Baron von Beust being to the effect that the country should be divided into zones of five or six miles broad, and the people be allowed to vote as to whether they shall be Germans or Danes. The Baron proposed to begin the voting at the northern side of the duchy and to come south till a majority of any one zone declare for Germany, and then all south of that line to be added to Holstein and Lauenburg and erected into an independent State. This arrangement is not satisfactory to Denmark, however, because, the population being very much mixed, one northern zone would not settle the question of nationality, as others further south might contain a majority of Danes.

Russia has transferred her rights to the succession in the duchies to the Oldenburg branch of the family; and it is alleged that this is in view of an arrangement whereby the Augustenburgs will be set aside, the Oldenburgs succeed to the throne of the Germanised territory, and that Prussia shall acquire a portion of the present possessions of the Oldenburg house, in consideration of supporting the scheme. All this, however, is mere speculation at present.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* asserts that Earl Russell intimated to Count Apponyi, previous to the last meeting of the Danish Conference, that if hostilities should be renewed, and the Austrian fleet should enter the Baltic, England would feel compelled to send her fleet thither likewise. Austria, it is stated, gave the mild answer which turneth away wrath. She promised not to send her fleet to the Baltic.

Many of the notables of Copenhagen have proposed an address to the King, recommending an intimate Constitutional union of Schleswig with the kingdom as essential for the independence of Denmark, and denouncing a personal union of Schleswig-Holstein as destructive of the kingdom. Meanwhile, the King has summoned the Rigsraad, or Assembly for Denmark and Schleswig, for the 25th inst.; and the meeting of the Conference which was to have taken place on Thursday has been postponed till to-day (Saturday).

The following document has been published by a morning contemporary as the declaration made by the Plenipotentiaries of Denmark at the sitting of the Conference on the 2nd inst.:

When, at the period of the conclusion of the Treaty of London, the present King of Denmark accepted the choice made of him to succeed to the then reigning King, his Majesty's resolution was dictated principally and decisively by the firm hope that Europe would know how to maintain that which she had recognised and agreed to by this solemn treaty. His Majesty did not wish by his refusal to interpose an obstacle to the integrity of the Danish Monarchy receiving an ulterior guarantee of stability, and he knew by the renunciations and sacrifices made by those having the right, that in accepting the offer made to him he compromised the rights of no one.

Since then things have changed, and his Majesty has been obliged to submit to a most cruel disappointment. In spite of his own efforts and those of his devoted people—his sole support for the realisation of a work in which nearly the whole of Europe had concurred—his Majesty was obliged to take into consideration the possibility that his hopes would not be realised.

If it must be so; if the Powers of Europe really wish to abandon the Treaty of London, his Majesty, to avoid the resumption of hostilities, would not oppose a territorial cession, provided always that he should obtain thereby not only peace, but also an independent, perfectly autonomous, existence for that which would remain to him of his States, and on condition that the future destiny of the ceded territories should not be fixed without their consent.

The Danish Government accepts, then, in principle, the proposition made at the last sitting by Earl Russell for the re-establishment of peace between Denmark and the two great German Powers.

But, in order that peace, which we ardently wish for, may be real, it must be under all conditions which will be necessary to assure to Denmark the independence which comes to her by right, the political independence which the Treaty of London should guarantee to her, and for the preservation of which the Danish people have not hesitated to engage single-handed in a sanguinary struggle with forces greatly superior to their own.

The Danish Plenipotentiaries feel bound to observe from the present time that in the sacrifices wished to be imposed on Denmark there are limits which the Danish Government cannot exceed.

The new frontier of Denmark is a vital question for this country. It is necessary that she should possess a frontier having reference to her military and commercial interests, and this frontier ought to be fixed by sufficient guarantees.

There is one other point on which the Danish Government reserves all its freedom. It is only on quite special conditions that his Majesty the King of Denmark will consent to the cession of the Duchy of Lauenburg. This country was acquired in his time by the King of Denmark in exchange for a part of Pomerania, to serve as an equivalent for the kingdom of Norway, sacrificed for the re-establishment of the peace of Europe, and it is essentially foreign to the dispute which has caused the present war.

Finally, the Danish Plenipotentiaries ought to claim for their Government full liberty to resume the position which it has invariably maintained up to the present time, on the basis of the Treaty of London, as soon as it sees that the provisional and conditional abandonment of this position will not lead to an equitable and just arrangement fitting to replace the dispositions of this treaty.

THE LATE EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE AT TRIPOLI.—Further particulars have been received relative to the late explosion of a Government powder-magazine at Tripoli on the 30th of May, by which more than 500 persons were at first said to have been killed, the greater portion consisting of Ottoman soldiers, in a barrack in the vicinity of the magazine. It appears from a later telegram, received by the Ottoman Consul-General at Malta from the Governor of Tripoli, that the number of victims was 150 only; that none of the population had, as first reported, sought refuge on board the shipping in port, and that perfect tranquillity prevailed among the people. Telegraphic communication had been temporarily suspended from injury done to the station and from the necessity of removing the instruments, which were covered with the debris. A Malta journal also publishes a telegram, received by Sir J. G. Le Marchant from the British Consul-General, Colonel Harman, dated on the day of the explosion, which states that the ammunition in the Spanish fort had been in process of removal for six or seven days, and that the quantity that exploded was about 3000 lb. of powder, totally destroying the fort, the custom-house, and the adjacent magazines. Had the explosion taken place a few days previously the whole town would have been destroyed.

PENSIONERS ON THE CIVIL LIST.—The roll of Civil List pensioners for the past year is as follows:—Lady Ingle, £500, as an acknowledgment of the brilliant services of the late Sir J. Ingle during the Indian mutiny, especially the gallant defence of the Residence at Lucknow—services to which may partly be attributed his early death; Eliza Cook, £100, in consideration of her literary labours, both in poetry and prose, and her falling health; Rev. C. B. Gibson, £100, as author of many literary works, and for the high testimony borne as to their value; Mrs. Sheridan Knowles, £100, in consideration of the talents of her late husband, Mr. James Sheridan Knowles, as a dramatic author; Mr. Kenny Meadows, £80, in acknowledgment of his merits as an artist, more especially evinced by his illustrations of Shakespeare; Miss Dinah Mulock, £60, authoress of "John Halifax, Gentleman," "A Life for a Life," and other well-known works of fiction; Mr. W. Allingham, £60, on account of the literary merits of his poetical works; Mrs. Austin, £60, in consideration of the services of her late husband, a civil engineer, who died whilst engaged in the public service, and who had devoted himself to the sanitary improvement of dwellings for the poor; Mrs. Leaf, £50, as the widow of Mr. J. Leaf, who, though of humble origin, was a contributor of articles of great merit to various journals; Jean Williamson Thomson, £30, sister of Hugh Miller, on account of his literary merit.

### THE IRON-CLAD CORVETTE RESEARCH.

A SERIES of highly-interesting and important gunnery experiments took place in the Channel, off Berry Head, a few days ago, on board Her Majesty's iron-clad corvette Research, for the purpose of putting this new and experimental ship to the severest tests which her fighting capabilities will have to undergo in actual warfare.

The experiments were arranged with due regard to the objects with which the Research was designed and to the principles of her construction. The ship steamed from Plymouth Sound at daylight in charge of her able commander, Captain Wilmshurst, R.N., whose instructions were to put her to thorough test under proper conditions, firing shotted guns with full charges of powder singly at all the ports in succession, and concentrated broadsides of rifled and round shot at the permanent ports, from the Armstrong 110-pounders and the 68-pounders of 95 cwt. The result proved the perfect capability of the ship in every respect to undergo this necessary but severe ordeal. Soon after passing the Start, finding the offing tolerably clear of shipping, Captain Wilmshurst manned the guns and cleared the ship for action. The first shot was fired point-blank from the 68-pounder at the foremost starboard broadside port, with a full charge of 12 lb. of powder and a solid shot. The second quickly followed from the Armstrong 110-pounder on the same side of the ship, with the same charge and a long shot of 101 lb. The guns at the opposite broadside were next similarly dealt with. After reloading with like shot and charges, all four guns were "extreme trained" into positions the most unfavourable for them—that is, with their breeches turned towards the armour-plated bulkheads, and in these positions were successively discharged. The gun in every instance remained well clear of the battery after recoiling. Up to this point of the experiments all apertures for the escape of smoke from the battery, except the broadside ports, were kept closed for the purpose of ascertaining what would be the worst condition of things during a close action without special ventilation. The experiment showed that an action might well be maintained under the circumstances; but the relief experienced during the subsequent firing, by opening the bulkhead doors, the battery-hatches, and the ventilators over the guns, was undoubtedly very beneficial. The next firing was with the guns "extreme trained" in the opposite direction, with unaltered charges, the result being equally satisfactory. The guns at the broadside ports having thus been tried singly, under all practicable circumstances of difficulty, nothing remained but to discharge them in pairs, on each broadside alternately. This was accordingly done, with full charges of powder, on the starboard side first, and on the port side afterwards. The shock in each case was severe, but produced no effect whatever upon the ship. The guns were "extreme trained" on both sides, and the shot met and crossed each other at a very few yards from the ship's side, diverging afterwards until they were more than a mile apart. This completed the firing at the broadside ports. A thorough inspection was then made by Captain Wilmshurst and the officers of the ship, on deck and below, and not the slightest sign of strain or breakage of any kind could be discovered, although it was well known that it is a very rare occurrence indeed for a man of war to clear for action, and much more rare for her to practise all her guns with full charges and solid shot, without doing some sort of damage to her minor fittings.

The experiments might have ceased at this point if the Admiralty and Mr. Reed had been content with accomplishing in this small seagoing iron-clad all that the much larger ships can effect as regards range of fire, for there is not in Admiral Dacres's squadron a single iron-clad ship capable of firing fore and aft from within her armour-plating. This has, however, been attempted in the Research; and after the firing described above all the guns were transferred to the bulkhead ports, for bow and stern fire, loaded with full charges, and discharged over the decks and through the long ports in the ship's side. The guns were not fired together in these positions, because as they bear in four entirely different directions there can be no conceivable object in discharging them all simultaneously. The jar upon the ship was much more marked at each discharge than it had been previously, and for the moment it seemed incredible that the lighter fittings of a ship could withstand such violent concussions; but, when discharge after discharge had taken place, a thorough examination of the ship was again made; but, with the exception of two small iron eyes, and two glass articles which had been left on deck, no sort of damage was found to have been done to the vessel or her fittings. In order to test to the very utmost what the ship could stand, Captain Wilmshurst finally loaded the 68-pounders, which were now placed as chase-guns, with more than full charges—with 16 lb. of powder, in fact—and fired them in quick succession along the decks within less than 20 deg. of the line of keel. On renewed examination, even this was found to have left everything unharmed, the very pitch in the deck seams under the muzzles of the guns being found absolutely undisturbed.

The experiments of the day were concluded by a series of manoeuvres intended to ascertain with what frequency the Research could ply an enemy with shot and shell while chasing her. It was found that, by diverging 16 deg. from her course, she could bring the first gun to bear in 25 seconds, and, on reversing the helm, could bring the opposite one to bear in 54 seconds, returning to her course in 34 seconds more. Thus, in less than two minutes, she can at full speed discharge two guns right ahead at an enemy, and return again to the direct pursuit.

### A ROMANTIC MATRIMONIAL SWINDLER.

A VERY romantic case of swindling has just been tried before the Paris Court of Correctional Police. The prisoner, who had evidently read "Gil Blas," is a Spaniard, Eusebio y Ribate y Garcia, calling himself "Marquis d'Ottero." In spite of his sonorous names, "Don Eusebio" is but the son of a bricklayer in Estremadura. He came to Paris to make his fortune, and, as will be seen from the sequel, was on the point of marrying the daughter of a wealthy Hebrew merchant in that city, when, in the very nick of time, his fraud was discovered. He alighted on the 16th of February last at one of the hotels in the Rue Vivienne, much frequented by Spaniards. He looked every inch a gentleman, and displayed, with studied negligence, a pocket-book, the contents of which looked very like bank-notes. Therefore the hotel-keeper treated him with all the respect due to a man whose purse seemed so well filled, who called himself a Marquis, and looked not unlike one. He even took so much interest in his lodger as to recommend him, as he seemed to have a good deal of money about him, to lodge it at a banker's. "Don" Eusebio y Ribate y Garcia replied that he had only about 20,000 fr. in his pocket-book, and that he would soon require it, as he came to Paris to get married, &c. He hired a brougham by the month, spared no expense, and, though he never paid his hotel bill, so conducted himself as to inspire the candid landlord with unlimited trust in himself; so that, when he came home one fine afternoon looking pale and haggard, stating that he had lost his pocket-book, and must write to Spain for money, the landlord supplied him with cash, and even treated him to the Italian Opera in order to raise his spirits. He contrived to make the acquaintance of a young Frenchman who had travelled in Spain, and inspired him also with a firm belief in his Châteaux en Espagne, and ingratiated himself with him to such a degree as to obtain an introduction to Mr. Levy Mayer, his uncle. Mr. Mayer had a daughter, and Eusebio, having ascertained that she would come in for a handsome "dot," began to pay his addresses to her. The young lady was very much taken with her admirer, and her mamma, rejoicing at the prospect of marrying her daughter to a marquis, was perfectly fascinated. The father thought it rather odd that a Spanish grandee should take to wife a Jewish heiress, and told him so, but Eusebio was at no loss for a reply. He was a man of the world, he said; had seen life, and was wholly devoid of prejudice. Mr. Mayer thereupon gave his consent, but at the same time wrote to Madrid for information respecting M. le Marquis d'Ottero. Meanwhile the wedding trousseau was prepared, and marked with the Ottero arms. M. le Marquis made himself agreeable to the ladies, and purchased for his fiancée jewellery to the amount of about £800, and handed over in payment a bill accepted by a Paris house for double the amount. This proved his ruin. The jeweller called on the father-in-law, and acquainted him with the fact that the acceptors of the bill had failed several months ago; almost simultaneously a reply was received from Madrid, stating that the Marquis d'Ottero was unknown in the Spanish peerage. The marriage was already fixed when matters thus came to a climax. At first Eusebio stoutly maintained his marquisate, &c., but at length he gave in. He told Mr. Mayer he was not a Marquis; he had only 75,000 fr. in the world; he had swallowed a large dose of opium; and called for pen and ink to leave his "little all" to Mlle. Mayer, whom he must now give up. As this scene was going on it appears that Mlle. Mayer and her mamma made their appearance, and Mr. Mayer deposed on oath that a "painful scene" ensued, in which he (the papa) got very much the worst of it. However, his suspicions had been aroused, and were not to be allayed. Further inquiries were made, and the upshot of the matter was the appearance of M. le Marquis in the dock of the Correctional Court. The taking of opium, it need hardly be said, proved a sham, like all the rest.

All these curious facts were sworn to by the hotel-keeper and the father-in-law. As the latter was resuming his seat a little scene of high comedy took place:—"President: And tell us, Mr. Mayer, what became of the wedding trousseau.—Mr. Mayer (smiling): My wife has it still in her cupboard. M. le President, marked with the arms of M. le Marquis." M. le Marquis was obliged to confess to the truth of the depositions summarised above. M. le Procureur Impérial made a violent speech, in which this bold stroke for a wife was stigmatised very unfeelingly, and without any of the sense of humour evinced by both the President and the young lady's papa; and the Court sentenced Eusebio y Ribate y Garcia to 3000 fr. fine and five years' imprisonment.

THE LATE CHARLES GLOVER, THE COMPOSER.—The widow of this popular ballad composer, whose works have become "household words," will have an evening concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, with the co-operation of several distinguished artists, such as the Swedish vocalist, Mlle. Enquist, Mlle. Weiss, Miss Poole, Miss Ravenscroft, Mlle. Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Cummings, Mr. G. Ferren, Mr. Patey, and Mr. Lewis Thomas, besides the Orpheus Glee Union; Mr. J. T. Barnett, and Mr. Henry Banner, pianists; Mr. Carrods, violinist; Mr. Apthomas, harpist, &c.



## THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL GRANT'S TACTICS AND POSITIONS OF THE ARMIES IN VIRGINIA.

GENERAL GRANT having discovered that the direct road to Richmond, to be traversed with the loss of from 10,000 to 15,000 men per mile, was practically impassable, has changed his tactics. Twice he attempted, in a series of battles extending over ten days, to cut his way by sheer brute force through the obstacles opposed to his march, and twice, if not actually beaten back, he was foiled with tremendous slaughter. At his third halting-place, on the bank of the North Anna, he found the impediments much more formidable than those of the Wilderness or Spottsylvania Courthouse, and paused to consider what was to be done. The partisans, both of the North and the South, were equally anxious that at this point he should once more try the mettle of his legions. The Federalists had an idea that Lee's army was decimated, demoralised, and hopeless, and that Grant had only to fight with the fierceness and tenacity of his opening battles to overbear all opposition, scatter the panic-stricken hosts of the South, and rush, conquering and to conquer, into Richmond. The Confederates, on the contrary, maintained that the position between the North and the South Anna was that in which, above all others, Lee would have preferred to try conclusions with his adversary, and that it was the place on which he had lavished all the resources of his military and

engineering skill. For these reasons they hoped that Grant would resort to his old policy, and risk everything upon the issue of battle. Grant took time for reflection. He studied the work to be done; and, after a repose of several days, varied only by an occasional skirmish between the outposts and a few feints to discover the whereabouts of particular divisions of the opposing army, came to the conclusion that the position was in all respects what it was represented to be, and was only to be taken at such an awful sacrifice of life as to make it cruel if not insane to attempt it. He therefore determined upon another flank movement, and hastily, secretly, and successfully transferred his whole army, by forced marches, to the north bank of the Pamunkey—a river formed by the junction of the North and South Anna—where he took up a new position at Hanover town, within about fifteen miles of Richmond. Subsequently, he crossed the Pamunkey and occupied a position about three miles to the south of the stream. Lee, on discovering Grant's movement, rapidly manœuvred his forces and took up a position north of the Chickahominy, fronting the Federal forces, and completely covering Richmond. During these manœuvres some fighting took place, in which the Federals claim to have had the advantage.

Two attacks have since been made on the new lines, and both have failed. The first was on the 1st of June, when the Federal left, under Generals Wright and Baldy Smith, made an attempt to turn General Lee's right near Cold Harbour, and thus, if possible,

the strongest in America, is the outer defence of Richmond. From the top of the hills on the one side, across the swamps to the hill-tops on the other side, the distance varies from a mile to a mile and a half. The ordinary 12-pounder rifled Napoleon gun can just about throw a shell from one hill-top to the other. From the Fredericksburg railroad crossing down to New-bridge, a distance of eight miles, the Confederate works are all along the hills on its southern border.

## THE OPERATIONS IN GEORGIA.

Sherman reports an engagement between Macpherson and the Confederates, near Dallas, on the 28th ult., in which the Confederates lost 250 men killed and wounded and 300 prisoners. The Federal loss is stated at 300. The Richmond journals claim this affair as a victory for the Confederates, and state the Federal loss at from 5000 to 7000 men. Sherman further reports under date June 2, 9.30 p.m., that Macpherson was confronting the enemy at New Hope Church; that Stoneman's cavalry had possession of Altoona Gap, and that Schofield and Hooker were pushing forwards towards Marietta. Mr. Stanton states that other movements were in progress, which, for prudential reasons, he withheld from publication. It was believed that General Johnston would continue to retire, and defer a general engagement until he reached Atlanta, where he expected to be reinforced by General Polk's army. General Forrest's cavalry was said to be at Corinth, preparing for a raid in General Sherman's rear.

## GENERAL NEWS.

The Confederates had erected formidable batteries on the Mississippi and burnt several steamers.

The Federals were being driven out of Arkansas by the Confederates.

Four Federal torpedoes had accidentally exploded at Bachelor's Creek, North Carolina, on the 27th ult., killing and wounding upwards of seventy soldiers.

A convention at Cleveland, Ohio, has unanimously nominated General Fremont for the presidency and General Cochrane for vice-president. The platform agreed upon declared for the suppression of the rebellion, the constitutional abolition of slavery, the political equality of the negro, and the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine.

Secretary Chase had advertised for subscriptions to a new six per cent loan of 75,000,000 dols. interest payable in coin, and redeemable on June 30, 1881.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, to whom the Seward-Dayton correspondence on the Franco-Mexican question was referred, had declared that Congress alone has power to dictate the policy to be pursued in such cases, and had instructed the chairman, Mr. Winter Davis, to prepare a report to that effect, to be accompanied by a resolution reiterating the previously-expressed determination in regard to a monarchy in Mexico.

## TAHITI.

THERE is, perhaps, no country in the world with which we all have so many early associations as with Tahiti, or, to call it by its better-remembered name, Otaheite; and amidst all the interesting records of discovery the graphic accounts of this island must rank next to those of Mexico and Peru. From the slight particulars preserved of the landing of De Quiros in 1606 to the establishment of the first missionary station in 1798, the history of Otaheite is like a wonderful story; and most of us remember the delight with which we have pored over "The History of the Mutiny of the Bounty," or turned over the pages of some old copy of Captain Cook's narrative, and pictured to ourselves the coral reefs, the hilly island covered with waving trees and strange, beautiful fruits; the King carried on men's shoulders, because whatever spot of earth was touched by his foot became a Royal possession; how we could see the fleet of canoes filled with pebbles which were hurled from slings against Captain Wallis and the crew of the Dolphin before they fired the big guns; the erection of the flagstaff, and the immediate appropriation of the British ensign by the appreciative savage, who used it afterwards as a Court dress; the strange ceremonies, native concerts, dances, games, embalming of dead chiefs, the vices and immorality, and yet the not ungenerous docility, of those strange people, who inhabited one of the most fertile islands in the loveliest climates of the world.

Otaheite, which is under the protection of France, and is known generally as Tahiti, is the principal of that group known as the Society Islands, in the Pacific Ocean. It consists, in fact, of two peninsulas of unequal size united by a low isthmus, and is surrounded by a coral reef which lies at a distance of from two to six miles, with several breaks, and so affords admirable bays or anchorages for vessels in the deep, still lagoon lying between this belt and the shore.

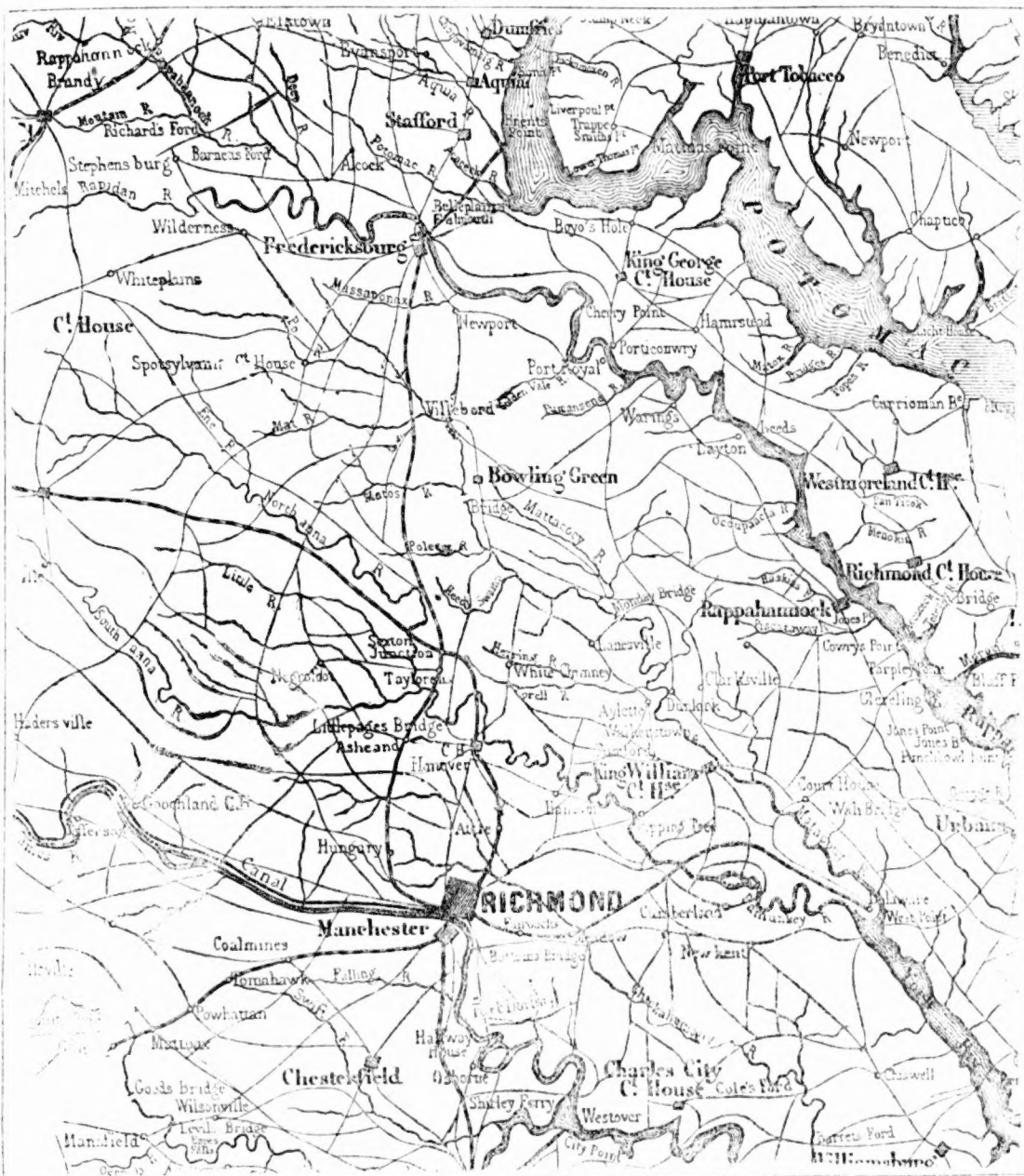
With the exception of a level tract bordering the coast, the whole island is of a mountainous character, rising gradually towards the interior, with a culminating point of 11,500 feet. Nothing can exceed the exquisite beauty of the scenery, which alternates from picturesque mountain to deeply wooded valley, covered with luxuriant vegetation.

The group of islands of which Tahiti is the chief are divided into two clusters—the first of which were originally named by Cook the Georgian Islands, in honour of George III., and the second the Society Islands, in honour of the Royal Society. They are all known, however, by the latter name—the principal geographical distinction between the two groups being that of the seafaring custom, which designates them the Windward and the Leeward Islands. They are separately named Tahiti, Eimeo, Tabarua, or Sir Chas. Sanders Island, Tetuarua, Matae, and Metea in the first group; and Huahine, Raiatea, Tahaa, Borabora, Maurua, Tubai, Moupi, or Lord Howe's Island, and Fenuarua or Seilly Islands in the second group.

There seems little doubt that the present surface of these islands is due to volcanic action, since, besides the strange and irregular forms of the mountains, there are other evidences of such an origin. The mountains of Tahiti are less grand than those of the northern groups; but there is greater richness of verdure and variety of landscape, and the mountains frequently diverge, in short ranges, from the interior towards the shore, others rising like pyramids, or in a sugarloaf form. Orohena, the central and loftiest mountain, is about 6000 ft. above the level of the sea, and of wonderfully picturesque appearance. Indeed, every writer on the South Sea Islands has been lavish in praise of their scenery, which is of the exquisitely beautiful character.

In no part of the world was missionary effort crowned with greater success than in Tahiti and its sister islands; and, though the devoted men and women who first landed there from the Duff had to pass through a painful ordeal, their endeavours were at length successful, and a large section of the natives embraced Christianity, and accepted its accompanying civilisation with a docility and appreciation not often seen among savages. The fact is, that the early missionaries were men and women who could both work and preach; some of them could even fight when it became necessary to help King Pomare against his invading enemies; and when the King himself had embraced Christianity, the influences of those useful arts which the missionaries had taught became widely spread and more thoroughly acknowledged. Human sacrifices were abolished, infanticide was discontinued, the "Areois" were disbanded, and the gross immorality which was the condition of this singular people gradually gave way before the higher teaching and better example of their new instructors. Around the low, native-hatched huts new plants added their luxuriance to the native fruits and foliage; and when, at last, Mr. Pritchard went out as chief of the missionary station he found a colony which he was soon able to organise into a happy community. The Government is still a monarchy, and the name of the Queen is Pomare; but the cruelty and tyranny have disappeared, and the Pomare of to-day is a respectable, middle-aged lady with a dark complexion, but otherwise of decidedly European appearance.

The Pomare II. who was King of Tahiti at the time of Cook's third voyage was son of a native named Otuu Tina Vairatea and Pomare, Regent of the island. This name Pomare, which was destined to become permanent with the rulers of the island, originated in a singular way. Otuu, who had one day started on



MAP OF THE SEAT OF WAR IN VIRGINIA.

cut him off from Richmond. The whole army was held in readiness for a general attack, but, owing to the failure of the left, the order to advance was withheld. In this affair the Confederates are described as fighting from intrenchments, which were again commanded by other works in the rear—a piece of noteworthy intelligence, since it shows the completeness of the Richmond defences, and the power of the Confederates to resist even such an army as Grant can bring against them. No better success has attended the last attempt, which was made on the 3rd, after the opposing armies had been five days in their new positions. In this case we have the despatch of General Grant himself, so that there can be no doubt of the result.

The Federal commander states that at 4.30 a.m. on the 3rd he assaulted General Lee's whole line and drove him back to his intrenchments, capturing 300 prisoners, but gained no decisive advantage. After the battles of last month, the loss in this action may be naturally described as "not severe;" but we learn from official despatches that it amounted to 3000. From these events it is fair to conclude that the capture of Richmond, if it ever takes place, will be accomplished only by a sacrifice of life horrible to think of, and far beyond the military value of the contest. To take this city has been made a point of honour by the Federals, and, though they know well enough that its capture would do little to bring the war to an end, they go obstinately on because to desert would be to confess defeat. But what Americans themselves think of the campaign is pretty well indicated by the state of the money market. It is sufficient to say that, in spite of the financial expedients of Mr. Chase, the price of gold has now risen to 92 premium. If the Federals be the best judges of their own affairs, this fact betokens no speedy end of the contest.

Such was the state of affairs at the date of our last advice, the 4th inst., when another great battle was impending. Meanwhile, it was reported that General Hunter in Northern Virginia, Crooke in Western Virginia, Pope with the army of the north-west, and A. J. Smith, with 20,000 men, lately from the Red River, had been ordered to reinforce the Potomac army. Butler was still in his intrenchments at Bermuda Hundred, "acting exclusively on the defensive," a portion of his troops, under "Baldy" Smith, having been transferred to the immediate command of General Grant.

Pittsburgh Lee, son of the Confederate commander, with 500 cavalry, was reported to have been captured while attempting a raid on White House.

One of the Confederate ironclads at Richmond descended James River to Bermuda Hundred on a reconnaissance, and attacked the monitors on the morning of the 1st. After an engagement lasting

two hours she returned to Richmond. The extent of damage to the ironclads or monitors is not reported.

## THE NEW BATTLE-GROUND.

The New York World of June 1 gives the following description of the ground occupied by the hostile armies between the Pamunkey and Chickahominy rivers. The map given above will still further facilitate a proper understanding of the positions of the rival hosts:—

The situation of both the opposing armies in Virginia is such, at the latest advice, that a battle may be considered imminent. In view of this fact a brief topographical description of the battle-field may not be uninteresting. Both armies are now in Hanover county, with the North Anna on the north and the Chickahominy on the south. Lee's army, as is announced in official despatches from General Grant, is on the Mechanicsville-road, south of the Potomac River, one of the tributaries of the Pamunkey, and between that stream and Hawes's shop, with his right resting on Shady-grove. The surface of Hanover county is hilly, and the soil sandy, but there are few natural impediments to the operations of an army. Hanover Courthouse, the county seat, is memorable as the scene of Patrick Henry's early career, and as the birthplace of Henry Clay. The object of Lee will be to preserve and as the capital from the advance of General Grant, and for this reason he has selected a field which covers all the highways leading to Richmond. General Grant seems inclined to give his enemy no opportunity to move northward, and therefore has ordered the destruction of the bridges over Little and the North Anna Rivers. Lee's left—assuming that he faces to the south—is protected by the Chickahominy. The road from Hanover Town crosses this stream at Mechanicsville, which is on a turnpike road five miles north-west of Richmond. There is another road just in the rear of this which also leads to the rebel capital. In moving down these roads, General Grant will encounter the lines of Lee's army, and the situation is so constructed that there is little probability of another flank movement being successful. If the Chickahominy is intended by Lee as the last line of defence, the position has been well chosen. The stream itself is peculiarly adapted to the defensive warfare. The river is a small one, and flows sluggishly. It divides itself into half a dozen streamlets, running into and out of each other at random. These water-courses occupy a space of about seventy yards in width. Immense trees grow up out of the water, and the entire stream is covered by thick woods. It is a remarkable instance of a river running through and under a long strip of woods. From each side of this woodland a flat surface extends for about half a mile. This is nearly always overflowed, and becomes an impassable morass. It is only when the water in the river is very low that men can safely walk upon the ground bordering it. On these flat surfaces there is not a solitary tree. They are bare, and of anything moving upon them can easily be discerned. From the borders of these plains huge hills, in some cases 200 and 300 feet high, abruptly rise. They are covered with thick woods, and are so steep that wagons cannot be hauled directly up their face. The few roads go down them diagonally to the bridges, across the swamp and river. This Chickahominy valley, one of





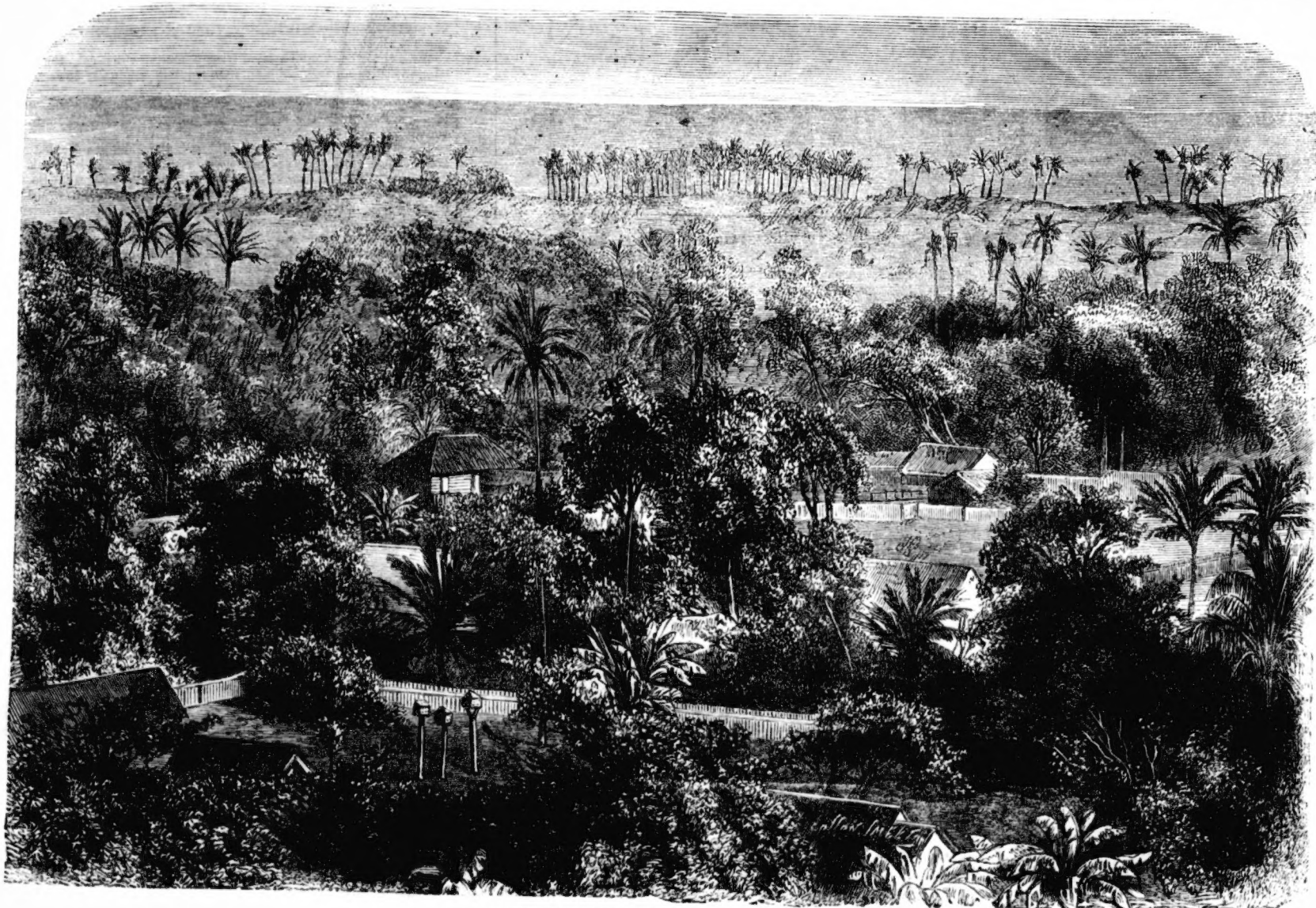
ARHI FAATE, PRINCE CONSORT. ARHI AHE, HEIR PRESUMPTIVE. QUEEN POMARE IV. TAMA TOA, KING OF RAIA TEA.

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF TAHITI.

an expedition into the mountains, came back with a terrible cough, and in order jocularly to remind him of his misfortune his women called the unlucky monarch Pe-mare, or Night-cough. He it was who received the missionaries and embraced Christianity, a course which probably brought down upon him the still heathen tribes, against whom he was assisted by his European subjects, and over whom he ultimately triumphed in 1815. Six years afterwards he died, and his infant son was proclaimed as Pomare III, the

regency being confided to the aunt of the youthful monarch. This Princess was opposed to the missionary influence, but their position was too strong for her to overthrow, and she was ultimately compelled to retire from the Government. On the death of the young King the throne descended to his sister Aimata, then fourteen years of age, and now Queen of Tahiti. The attempt of the French Admiral Dupetit-Thouars to take possession of the island was disallowed by the French Government under Louis Philippe; but it

was sought to establish the native rule under the protection of France; and, though the interference led to a long series of sanguinary conflicts in the island, peace was eventually proclaimed under the new arrangement, and the Queen, who had retired to Raiatea returned to Tahiti on Feb. 9, 1847. The treaty with France provides that the representative of France shall control all the exterior relations of the native Government and conduct all the affairs of the French and foreign residents in the protectorate States.

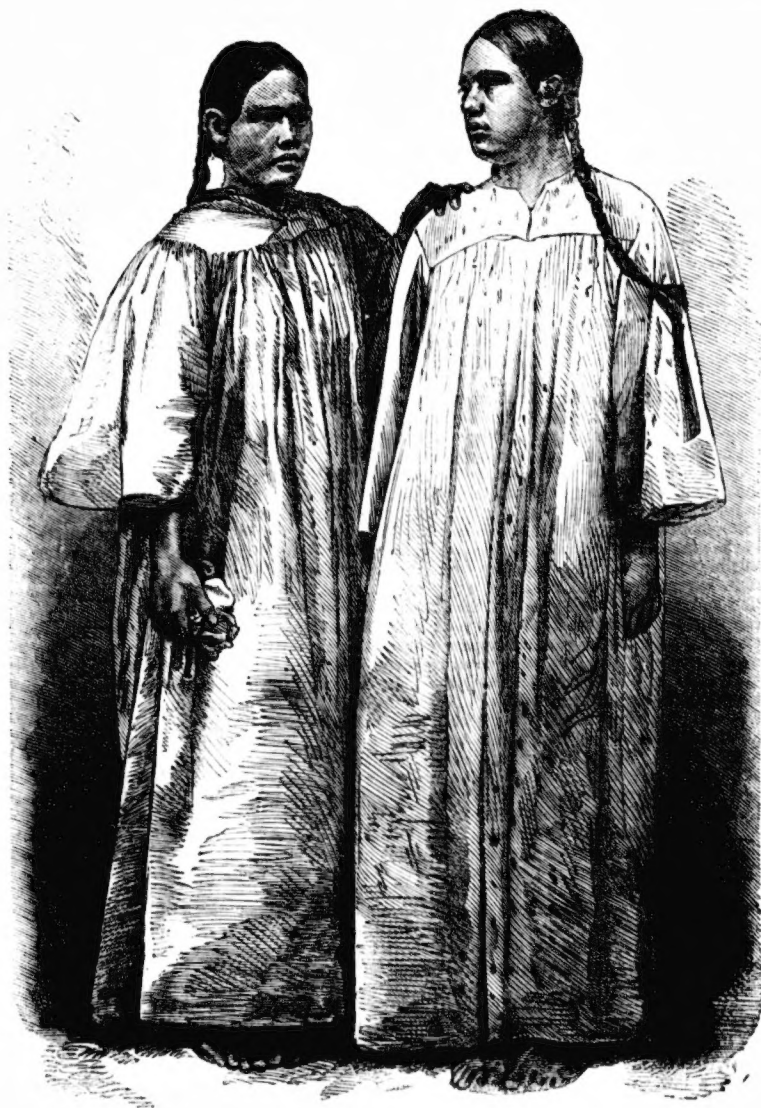


THE DISTRICT OF PARE-Y-PAPA-OA, TAHITI.





CANIQUE MEN.



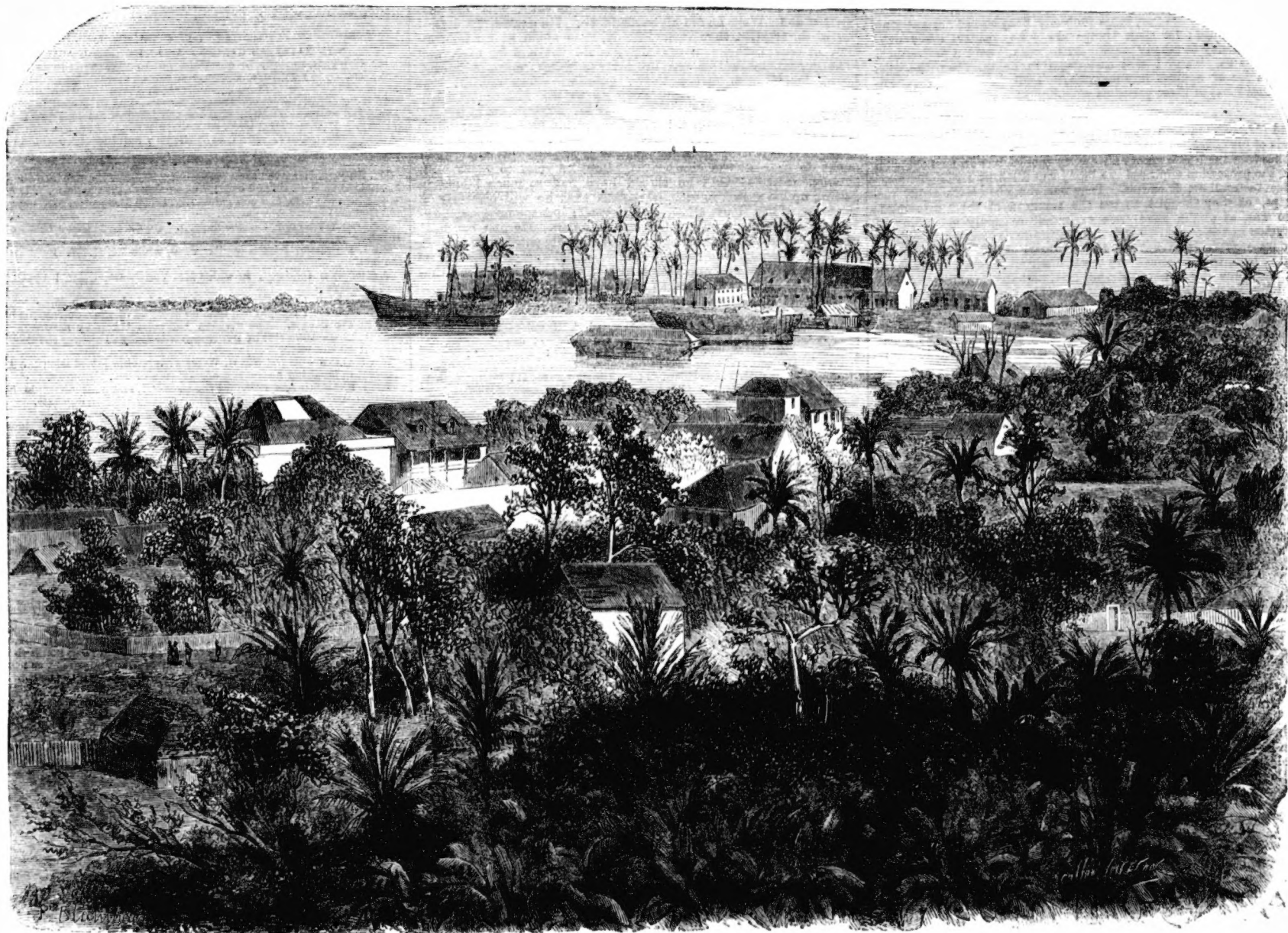
CANIQUE WOMEN.

The Government of Tahiti, however, is independent and Constitutional, having for its basis a Legislative Assembly consisting of deputies elected for three years by universal suffrage, rulers of districts, and *voohitus*, or native magistrates. The territory is divided into twenty-one districts, and the population is separated into a number of villages which, since 1855, are under the administration of a native council with considerable authority. The chiefs of districts are subordinate both to the native and to the French Governments, both of which have their seat at Papehiti, the

capital of the island, where the Assembly meets in a large square building of Oriental appearance surmounted by a dome. Here the Queen comes to open the Sessions with great solemnity, accompanied by the Governor and followed by a numerous cortège. She is dressed like a European lady, and takes a seat on a raised dais, having the Governor on her right hand, and her husband, Arii-Faaito, on her left. He speaks on her behalf; and, by reading a manifesto, draws the attention of the deputies to the points submitted to their consideration. The Governor then

gives a kind of resumé of the progress of the colony since the preceding Session, and the various male and female chiefs then approach to take the oath of fidelity to the Sovereign.

Our Engravings represent the Royal family of Tahiti, a view of one of the most beautiful stations near the coast, and the bay and arsenal at Papeete, the principal of those five harbours which are made from the breaks in the coral reef previously described. In our next Number we shall take an opportunity of describing some of the popular characteristics of this interesting country.



FARE-UTE POINT AND THE BAY AND ARSENAL OF PAPEETE.



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 240

MR. WILFRID LAWSON.

Wednesday, the 8th of June, we devoted to social reform. The leader of the day was Mr. Wilfrid Lawson, the member for Carlisle. Mr. Wilfrid Lawson is the eldest son of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, of Brayton, Cumberland, by Caroline, daughter of Sir James Graham, Bart., and sister of the Sir James Graham whom we knew so well. Mr. Lawson was born in 1829, and is therefore thirty-five years old. He is, as everybody must know by this time, a teetotaler, dislikes strong drink as a mad dog dislikes water. Sir Wilfrid, the father of the honourable member, is also a teetotaler, we are told; and it is said of him, that when he took the pledge he commanded his servants to bring out the contents of his wine cellar and pour them into the fishpond, and that the servants obeyed the command and killed all the fish; whereat, instead of being sorry, he rejoiced: as the incident furnished another proof of the poisonous nature of alcoholic drinks. Mr. Lawson is not only a teetotaler, but an earnest propagandist of the sect to which he belongs. In season and out of season, whether men bear or forbear, he fearlessly advocates the new Evangel, doubting nothing that the acceptance of it will prove the salvation of mankind. But Mr. Lawson's mode of propagating his gospel has in it more of the Mohammedan than the Christian spirit. If men will be persuaded, well; but, if not, they must be forced. If they will not abstain from drink we must forcibly take the drink away from them. In short, Mr. Lawson is not only a teetotaler, but advocates the Liquor Law of the State of Maine; and, if he were a monarch, with despotic powers, he would by a fiat promptly stop the sale of strong drinks throughout the realm. Mr. Lawson came into Parliament in 1859 at the general election of that year. His uncle, Sir James Graham, was his colleague. Since then, as we too well remember, the Right Hon. Baronet has been snatched away from us by envious death. Had he lived, he possibly might have tempered his nephew's fiery zeal with a little knowledge; and yet we know not that it would have been so, for your teetotalers are proverbially an obstinate and intolerant race. Mr. Lawson is not a frequent speaker in the house, and seldom speaks on any other subject than the one to which he has evidently consecrated his life. Nor is he an effective speaker. He has a slight impediment of speech; his manner is sluggish, his matter thin and not well put together, and his logic limps vilely. Still, he is clearly a sincere, earnest, and persevering man; and he is hopeful. Nay, he has a faith by which he confidently expects to remove mountains, and sees in his mind's eye a glorious Utopia before him, in which, from the Land's End to the Ultima Thule in the north, there shall not be a drinker of spirits, or wine, or beer, or any such thing left in the land. And we have no objection to the realisation of this vision, if it could be achieved as the apostles and prophets of old, and all the great reformers since, made their conquests; but we must have no force, Mr. Lawson. Strange that such men as Mr. Lawson cannot see that force in such matters is unphilosophical and illogical, and never can conquer permanent success, and, further, that all history exemplifies what philosophy teaches.

## PETITIONS.

On Wednesday, then, Mr. Lawson brought forward his permissive bill, thus trying to get into our social system the thin edge of his wedge, the thick end of which is a Maine liquor law, or, in plain words, a law to abolish the sale of alcoholic drinks through the length and breadth of the land; and, truth to say, though he met but little encouragement within the house, he was not badly supported from without. On the contrary, petitions, many of them of portentous size, some of them as much as honourable members well could carry, flowed into the house in one continuous stream for nearly half an hour. Four or five huge bags full of these paper pellets were carried out of the house into the journal office, besides scores which, having arrived too late, had to stand over till another day, and many others which could not be presented because they were informal. One we heard of was sent back; and for what reason, do our readers imagine? Well, because it was so stained with beer that the hon. member to whom it was sent, fearing that it might excite remark, refused to present it. A petition against beer-shops stained with beer! Did our readers ever hear the like of that? We should like to know the history of that petition. Possibly the signers, thinking that the end of beer-drinking was so near, determined to have a parting glass; or, more probably, they signed not knowing what they signed; for such things are done, reader, every day. "Give me money to set my machinery to work," said a professional agitator to us, "and I will undertake to deluge the house with petitions for or against any measure." Still, there is no reason to doubt that most of these petitions were honestly signed.

## PARTISANS.

And Mr. Lawson was well supported by the attendance of the friends of his cause. Usually on Wednesday mornings Mr. Speaker marches into the house across an empty lobby, but on this occasion when the procession appeared the lobby was filled by strangers, most of them teetotalers, of course. They had come to see the fight, and perhaps, as they thought, to see the triumph of their principles. There was, as might have been expected, a goodly sprinkling of clergymen in the crowd. Most of these, however, were evidently of the curate grade, and not of the rectorial—good, sincere, hard-working men, who, having every day to confront the evils of drunkenness, had come down here wistful, and, perhaps, hopeful that this bill of Mr. Lawson's might put a stop to the vice; for they, too, in their zeal to regenerate mankind, are too apt to fly to unconstitutional weapons. Rectors and shovel-batted dignitaries seldom come to the House of Commons on such occasions as these. They make their appearance only when the Church is, or is thought to be, in danger. A very natural arrangement, if we reflect upon it; for these latter are the rulers of the Church, whose duty is, or is supposed to be, specially to take care of the interests of the Church; whilst the former—the curates, or curators—are those, as their name denotes, who take care of the people. Most of these strangers got into the galleries of the House, and some of them, in their enthusiasm, ventured to applaud Mr. Lawson by clapping their hands—a disorderly proceeding which was promptly checked by the messenger in charge. We have said that some of these strangers thought to see a triumph of their cause, and we did not speak without book, for in conversing with several of them we discovered that they confidently expected that Mr. Lawson would carry his bill. Poor fellows! they must have been awfully dismayed when they saw from their lofty position so thin a stream follow Mr. Lawson in the division against the vast crowd that went the other way.

## MR. LAWSON'S SPEECH.

Mr. Lawson had but a scanty audience whilst he was speaking. There is never a good attendance in the early part of a morning sitting. The men of business are at their offices; the men of pleasure first come down to look about them, and to secure themselves from surprise by pairing, and then whisk away to their clubs, or to the Row, or wherever special attractions may draw them. Some fifty of the members are obliged to go to committees, whilst the Ministers are busy in their departments. Neither was Mr. Lawson's speech calculated to hold any one desirous to go away. He had a host of materials—statistical, anecdotal, and authoritative—all of which he managed to bring in appositely enough; but there was no forcible, sequent reasoning in his speech, no telling points, no potent appeals to the heads or the hearts of his hearers. In short, it was a dreary speech, and the members in attendance—many of them, at least—wandered about, fluctuating and restless—now in the house, now in the lobbies or the library, or on the terrace. Still, on the whole, a goodly number of members—perhaps about eighty—sat out the speech with commendable patience, albeit it must have lasted an hour by the clock. They had received petitions and memorials from their constituents, and with praiseworthy conscientiousness they determined at least to hear what Mr. Lawson had to say for his strange proposal.

## AN ARTILLERYMAN'S FIRE.

Major Jarvis, who moved that the bill be read that day three months, by which he meant, of course, that the bill should not be

read at all but dismissed at once, is an officer in the Royal Artillery, and he speaks, like an artilleryman, in loud and defiant tones. He does not argue, but, to keep up our figure, hurls his facts, like hard shot and explosive shells, right into the enemy. He never speaks long together, but shortly, sharply, and in bluff, direct, and soldierly phrase. "You want a Maine Liquor Law! Well, I have lived in the Maine Liquor Law States, and have seen the futility and absurdity of the system. It increases private drinking, and if men can't get drunk on one side of the border they go to the other. Two-thirds of the people in a parish have no right to compel one-third to become total abstinents." This is the gallant Major's way of attacking a measure which he does not favour. The gallant Major is member for Harwich. He is author as well as soldier; has written, amongst other things, a "History of Corfu and the Ionian Islands," and has, moreover, become lately a director of the Great Eastern Railway; and, as the directors of that line, or rather system of lines, are about to make Harwich a flourishing port, the gallant Major, it is thought, will be able to keep his seat against all comers.

## A STATESMAN'S VIEW.

Many of the teetotalers in the gallery thought that Mr. Bright would support the bill. He is not a pledged teetotaler, nor even a total abstinence; but he keeps no alcoholic drinks in his cellar, and is as determined a foe to intemperance as Mr. Lawson himself. And hence, perhaps, the teetotalers hoped that they would have the member for Birmingham's support. Mr. Bright, however, did not support the bill. On the contrary, by a masterly, exhaustive speech, he did more damage to the bill than all the speakers besides. He gave all credit to Mr. Lawson and his friends—would not allow that they are fanatical enthusiasts; but Mr. Bright is a statesman of keen, far-seeing vision, and not a narrow ideologist, and he saw that, as we may, as the proverb says, buy gold too dear, so we might obtain temperance at too great a cost. Not even to gain so great a blessing as temperance would he endanger property or infringe upon the liberties of the people. Besides, like the old Reformers, Mr. Bright has faith in the power of truth. The bill was thrown out by a majority of 292 to 35, and there cannot be a doubt that Mr. Bright's speech did much to increase the majority.

## HOW SIR FITZROY SET A TRAP AND FELL INTO IT.

Have our readers ever heard of Azeem Jah, the Nawab of the Carnatic? Not they. Nor are we about to enlighten them. No! Pass on, Azeem Jah, with thy questionable grievances. All we have to do with thee is just to note a little incident which happened in the House of Commons whilst Mr. Smollett, the member for Dumfriesshire, was walking there across our stage. On Monday, then, Mr. Smollett introduced this phantasm Nawab and his grievances to our notice, and we expected to have a long discussion thereupon; for the historians of these Indian Nawabs are very complicated—stretch far back into the remote past. Discussions, indeed, upon such matters are almost interminable. "It will be a long debate," said hon. members, when dinner-time arrived; "Smollett is still up, Ferguson is on the spring, Sir Fitzroy Kelly is good for an hour, Sykes has a whole history of the East India Company to deliver, and Sir Charles Wood certainly means to spin out of that well-known curious box of his a yarn as long as his arm." And so most of the members went away. Even those who had motions upon the paper would not stop, being fully persuaded that they might go home and dine, and even wine, and then be back before the division upon the Nawab and his wrongs could come off. But in the House of Commons we never know what an hour may bring forth. The debate suddenly closed, and when the absent members returned the Nawab had vanished into space, his friends had all disappeared too; the House was in Committee of Supply, and Mr. Williams and Mr. Augustus Smith being absent, running through the votes at a railway pace. The sudden cutting short of the debate happened in this way—it was arranged by the friends of the illustrious and much-injured Nawab that Sir Fitzroy Kelly should reply to Sir Charles Wood, and so get the last word. But there must always be two to a bargain, you know. Sir Charles Wood had not been consulted on this matter—had, in fact, determined to have the last word himself; and so it happened that, when all the other speakers had been exhausted, these two sat watching one another, each determined that the other should rise first. Meanwhile, what did Mr. Speaker do? Well, he did all he could do. He paused, he looked first at Sir Charles, then at Sir Fitzroy, then again at Sir Charles. But, of course, this courteous delay could not last for ever, and finding that neither of the belligerents would make a spring, he at length rose and put the question. The division was taken, and poor Sir Fitzroy woke up to the fact that he had fallen into his own trap. There was an attempt made by Mr. Hennessy after to get up a little storm about this matter; but it would not do. Clearly, Sir Charles was right and Sir Fitzroy was wrong. If the chief of a department is put upon his defence, he ought to hear all the accusations before he rises to speak. Sir Fitzroy, mortified that he should have had so much labour in getting up his speech in vain, threatens that he will certainly, if the forms of the House allow, yet fire it off; but we imagine, however, that he will never get the chance again. He had better at once draw the charge from his gun, and save his powder for another Session. Readers, in consequence of this little accident we got no less than 75 votes of Supply that night; and the officials say that by so doing we have knocked at least a week from the Session.

AGES OF AMERICAN GENERALS.—General S. Hamilton is 72 years of age; S. Cooper is 68; Polk, 58; Kelly, 57; Lee, 56; Joe Johnston, 54; Magruder and Keyes, 53; Phelps, 51; Foster, 50; Bragg, 49; Banks, McDowell, Halleck, and Meade, 48; Rosecrans, Grant, Bean, Pemberton, and W. Sherman, 46; W. T. Sherman, 44; Sickles and Pope, 41; Burnside, C. T. Hamilton, King, Longstreet, and Pleasanton, 40; Gilmore, McClellan, and Blunt, 38; Stanley and Averil, 30.

THE WOUNDED IN TIME OF WAR.—The Swiss Federal Council has addressed a letter to the Germanic Federal Diet, and to the Foreign Ministers of Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, France, Greece, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Mexico, North America, Portugal, Prussia, Rome, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Norway, and Turkey, requesting their participation in their participation in the international conference for the care of the wounded in war time, appointed to take place at Geneva on the 8th of August. Replies have already been received from fifteen States to the effect that their representatives will attend the conference.

THE LATE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT EGHAM.—The inquest on the victims of the late railway accident was resumed at Egham on Tuesday. The officials of the company proved that the signals were all in order, and that, in addition, men were stationed along the line with hand signals. The general order was to show the "danger" signal for five minutes after a train had passed, and the "caution" signal for five minutes more. The first train was started to stop at Egham, as we all know; the second, which was started exactly six minutes after it, was to run quite through Egham and stop at the station beyond. The witnesses stated that the danger signals were exhibited at the station when the second train came in at the rate of about ten or fifteen miles an hour. The inquiry was again adjourned. Another gentleman injured in the collision has since died; but Louis Raye, apprentice to M. Francatelli, is doing well. The Prince and Princess of Wales send daily to inquire as to his condition.

THE PAPER TRADE.—The papermakers insist that they are being ruined. Several of them met on Tuesday at the Bridge House Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. Evans. They passed a series of resolutions condemning Lord Palmerston's refusal to recommend a grant from the Consolidated Fund to reimburse the duties on rags charged abroad; declaring the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statements as to the paper trade to be incorrect; requiring that an application should be made for a Select Committee to inquire into the position of the trade with respect to foreign taxation; and requesting a conference with members of Parliament on the subject.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Chain Cables and Anchors Bill was read a second time. The Chimney Sweepers and Chimney Regulation Bill was read a third time and passed. The Courts of Justiciary (Scotland) Bill passed through Committee.

## GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

In reply to the Earl of Hardwicke, the Duke of Somerset said he had prepared a plan for the reform of Greenwich Hospital. He thought it would be better to separate the management of the income from the management of the invalids. He also proposed that men having families, and not being quite incapacitated from work, should have their allowances at home, while the hospital should be kept exclusively for the disabled and those having no families or houses. The school would be retained, and a portion of the hospital kept for wounded seamen in case of another maritime war. The plan would effect a saving of £70,000 or £80,000 a year, which would be applicable to the relief of seamen who required assistance and encouragement. A memorandum of the plan would be laid upon the table. After a brief discussion the subject dropped.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE ARMISTICE.

Mr. DISRAELI inquired to what day the Conference on the Danish question had adjourned, and whether the suspension of hostilities for a fortnight from this day was connected with any conditions that might account for that particular duration of the armistice.—Lord PALMERSTON replied that the particular duration of the armistice was not coupled with any conditions. A fortnight was the limit of the suspension to which the Danish Government were willing to agree.

## PRIVATE BILLS.

Lord R. CECIL moved a resolution declaring that the duty of ascertaining the facts upon which legislation in respect to private bills is to proceed should be discharged by some tribunal external to the House. The present system, he contended, was utterly breaking down. Under it members were greatly overworked, and the result was most unsatisfactory. The parties who supported the present system were all peculiarly interested in it. The course he proposed would secure justice being done, and would in no way trench upon the prerogatives of the House.

Mr. M. GIBSON agreed that the private bill legislation threw a great deal of work on the members of the House. But he thought the proposed substitute for the present system would be unsatisfactory. He believed if the decision on private bills had been left to a judicial body outside the House they would never have had any railways. He should be glad to assist in improving the present system as much as possible, but he hoped the House would not lightly agree to any proposition which would sanction Parliament parting with its jurisdiction over the private bill legislation of the country.

A lengthened discussion followed, and eventually Lord R. Cecil withdrew his motion.

## INDIAN CURRENCY.

Mr. J. B. SMITH moved that the increasing trade and commerce of India, and the consequent increasing demand for a portable circulating medium, required that a gold currency should be established in that empire. He quoted statistics largely to show the increasing trade of India, and pointed out that wishes had repeatedly been expressed by Indians for the establishment of a gold currency.

Sir C. WOOD said the question was one of great importance. It was under the consideration of the Indian Government, and he thought they had better wait until they had the opinions of the Indian public before them.

After a few words from Colonel Sykes, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Goschen, the motion was withdrawn.

## SUPPLY.—SIR ROWLAND HILL.

The House then went into Committee of Supply. Lord PALMERSTON moved a grant of £20,000 to Sir Rowland Hill in conformity with Sir R. Hill's message. In doing so, he highly eulogised the services of Sir R. Hill.

Mr. WILLIAMS opposed the grant. Several members spoke in support of the vote, which was eventually agreed to nem. con.

The consideration of the Civil Service Estimates were then proceeded with and several votes were agreed to.

MONDAY, JUNE 13.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## PENSION TO LADY ELGIN.

The Queen's message, recommending the grant of a pension to the Countess of Elgin, was taken into consideration, and on the motion of Earl Granville, seconded by the Earl of Ellenborough and supported by the Earl of Derby, their Lordships expressed their concurrence therein.

## THE YORK ASSIZES.

On the motion of Lord Wharfedale it was resolved, by a majority of 80 to 34, that an address should be presented to her Majesty, praying that the late decision of the Privy Council ordering the removal of the West Riding Assizes from York to Leeds, instead of to Wakefield, be reconsidered.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Mr. COWPER, in reply to questions put to him, said the Royal Academy was prepared to remove to Burlington House, and erect a gallery there at a cost of £80,000, provided an entrance from Piccadilly were allowed. But, even if the Royal Academy vacated the building in Trafalgar Square, there would not be room enough in it for the pictures belonging to the National Gallery. It would, therefore, be necessary to purchase the site in the rear of the present gallery. The cost of the new building there would not be less than £300,000.

## THE NAWAB OF THE CARNATIC.

Mr. SMOLLETT moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the claims of Azeem-Jah to the title and dignity of Nawab of the Carnatic. He entered at length into the case, and contended that truth and justice had been violated, and that an inquiry was needed.

Mr. GRENELL opposed the motion. He did not believe that any case of injustice had been made out.

Sir J. Ferguson took a similar view, while Mr. H. H. Baillie supported the motion.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. Vansittart, Colonel Sykes, and Mr. Lowe took part. On a division, the motion was negatived by 69 votes to 45.

Mr. HENNESSY complained that no member of the Government had taken part in the debate. The division had been taken by surprise. An hon. gentleman on that side of the House was ready to answer the Secretary for India if he had risen.

Mr. MALINS charged Sir C. Wood with having joined with the Attorney-General in laughing at the last observation of Mr. Hennessy.

Lord PALMERSTON defended Sir C. Wood, and said he would have risen but that the motion was fully answered by gentlemen opposite.

Sir F. KELLY said he should bring the matter forward again.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained that he had laughed at the assertion of Mr. Hennessy that an hon. member was prepared to answer a speech before it had been delivered.

Mr. FORSTER said he thought it would have been better for the Government to have stated the reasons for the policy they had pursued.

Sir C. WOOD said he had not spoken because he thought it a very inconvenient way of doing business for hon. gentlemen to reserve their speeches till after the Minister had addressed the House, when he had no opportunity of answering. Besides, the transactions complained of took place before he became Secretary for India.

Lord STANLEY said no decision had been come to by him on the matter. He should have been better pleased if Sir C. Wood had answered the case put forward by Mr. Smollett.

## THE NEW ZEALAND LOAN.

In Committee of the whole House, Mr. CARDWELL, in moving a resolution as to a loan to New Zealand, gave a brief account of the recent war proceedings in that country. He said all the news which had reached the Government was favourable, and although the Melbourne papers spoke of a reverse having been sustained by our troops, no such news had been received at the Colonial Office. If any reverse had been sustained it was not by any principal command. With respect to the proposed loan to the New Zealand Government, her Majesty's Government had come to the resolution to recommend to the House to guarantee a loan of a million at four per cent, on security which he believed to be safe. He proposed a resolution to that effect. After some discussion the motion was agreed to.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Earl Granville moved the concurrence of the House in the message of the Queen recommending the grant of £20,000 to Sir Rowland Hill. After some remarks from Lord Brougham and the Marquis of Clanricarde, the motion was agreed to.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## FACTORY ACTS EXTENSION BILL.

Mr. BRUCE moved the second reading of the Factory Acts Extension Bill, the object of which is to extend the provisions of those Acts, as regards the employment of children, to the pottery, lucifer-match, percussion cap, and cartridge trades. He entered at great length into the reasons why legislation on the subject was necessary, and pointed out other trades as to which inquiries were being made with a view of legislation.

A long discussion followed, after which the bill was read a second time.

## THE INCOME TAX.

Mr. HUBBARD moved that the inequalities and injustice attending the operation of the existing property and income tax disqualified it for being



continuously reimposed in its present form as one of the means of levying the national debt.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted the defects and inequalities of the income tax, but said it was difficult to substitute any other that would be less objectionable and produce so large a sum to the revenue.

On a division, the motion was negatived by 67 to 28.

#### EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

Sir H. CAIRNS moved that the rules sanctioned by the Irish Education Commissioners in November, 1863, are, so far as regards the aid afforded to convent and monastic schools, at variance with the principles of the system of national education. He supported the motion in a speech of some length.

Mr. DAWSON seconded it.

Mr. O'HAGAN opposed the motion; and, after some discussion, the debate was adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### FORFEITURE OF LANDS AND GOODS BILL.

Mr. C. FORSTER moved the second reading of the Forfeiture of Lands and Goods Bill. He argued that the forfeiture of the property of a felon was a relic of a barbarous age, and ought to be abolished. That it might be abolished he had introduced this bill.

Mr. W. EWART seconded the motion.

Mr. W. HUNT opposed the bill, and moved that it be read a second time that day three months.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL should support the second reading, without pledging himself to the details of the bill. He thought some modification of the present law was desirable.

After some further discussion, the amendment was negatived and the bill read a second time.

On the motion of Mr. Butt, the Costs Security Bill—the object of which is to abolish a restriction against bringing actions by Englishmen against Irishmen, living in their respective countries, and vice versa, without giving costs—was read a second time.

Mr. Dodson moved the second reading of the County Voters Registration Bill. After some discussion, the motion was carried.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### GUNS.

In answer to the Earl of Hardwicke, the Duke of SOMERSET, said that it is determined to alter a certain number of breech-loading guns into muzzle-loaders. The exact method of rifling them has not been determined on.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE CONFERENCE.

Mr. OSBORNE inquired whether it was true that the Conference was postponed till Saturday next.

Lord PALMERSTON said he believed the Conference was adjourned till Saturday.

Lord ROBERT CECIL—Is it postponed with the consent of all the Powers, or of a majority of the Powers, or by the Plenipotentiaries of England?

Lord PALMERSTON—I am not a member of the Conference. All I know is that it is adjourned till Saturday.

##### THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS.

On the order for going into Supply, Mr. FERRAND moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the construction, the expense, and the working of the Board of Charity Commissioners.

Mr. BRUCE warmly defended the Charity Commissioners, and protested with much indignation against charges of this violent character being brought forward without any notice whatever, and upon authority almost unknown, against officials of the highest respectability.

Several other members having also disapproved of the conduct of the hon. gentleman,

The House divided, when Mr. Ferrand's motion was defeated by a majority of 116 to 46.

##### SUPPLY.

The House soon afterwards went into Committee of Supply, when several votes connected with our colonies were agreed to.

#### OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR FERRIER.—The world of philosophy and letters has sustained a heavy loss by the death of James Frederick Ferrier, A.B., Oxon, Professor of Metaphysics and Political Economy in the University of St. Andrews. Mr. Ferrier's health had for some months been seriously impaired by organic disease of the heart; and latterly, we believe, he felt himself so completely incapacitated for conducting the business of his class that he had to delegate it to other hands. Repeated accessions of *angina pectoris* confirmed his numerous friends in the fear that recovery was hopeless; and on Saturday, at an age comparatively unadvanced, he died at his residence in the ancient University town which he adorned by his genius and enlivened by his social presence.

LORD ADOLPHUS F. C. W. VANE-TEMPEST.—Lord Adolphus Vane-Tempest, M.P. for the northern division of the county of Durham, died on Sunday. He was only ill a few days, and the members of the family were unprepared for the event. Lord Adolphus was the son of the late Marquis of Londonderry, by his second wife, Frances Anne, only daughter and heiress of Sir H. Vane-Tempest. He was born on the 2nd of July, 1825, was educated at Eton, and entered the 3rd Regiment of Guards in 1843. His Lordship served with his regiment in the Crimea, but, shortly after his return to England, retired from the army. Having been present at the siege before Sebastopol, he received the medal and clasp for his services. The late Lord, in June 1852, was returned a member of the city of Durham to the House of Commons, having unsuccessfully contested the seat at the general election, but was unseated on petition as being not duly elected. He was returned, however, in the December following, 1854, in the place of his brother, Lord Seaham, who had succeeded, on the death of his father, to the earldom of Vane. His Lordship has uninterruptedly represented the county in Parliament since. The deceased Lord married, in 1860, Lady Susan Pelham Clinton, only daughter of the Duke of Newcastle, by whom he leaves an infant daughter. By his death a vacancy of course occurs in the northern division of the county of Durham.

LADY GRENVILLE.—Anne, Lady Grenville, widow of the celebrated William Wyndham, Lord Grenville, the statesman, whom she survived just thirty years, died on Monday, at the age of ninety-two years. The late Lady Grenville was the only daughter of Thomas, first Lord Camelford, and sister of the last Peer of that title. She was born Sept. 10, 1772, and married, July 18, 1792, William Wyndham Grenville, third son of the Right Hon. George Grenville, brother of George, third Earl Temple. Her Ladyship had no family.

GENERAL DEMBINSKI.—The famous Polish General Dembinski, who has resided in Paris nearly fifteen years, died on Monday, at the age of seventy-three. He was till lately extremely vigorous. He was seen not many weeks ago in the Champs Elysees, dressed in the braided blue frock coat which he habitually wore, rolling his eagle eye, and with little of the old man about him except his white beard.

CALEDONIAN FANCY-DRESS BALL.—This festivity, which for many years past has successfully aided the cause of the two great Scottish charities in the metropolis, on Monday night numbered amongst its visitors their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Willis's Rooms are especially adapted for ornamental display, and upon this occasion the general arrangements were made subservient to the expression of a loyal and patriotic sympathy for her Royal Highness's fatherland. The national flag of Denmark took its place on each side of the Royal standard of Great Britain, and the galleries and corridors were draped with the Danish colours. The object of the festivity was aptly denoted by a tasteful arrangement of the banners of the various Scottish clans around the walls of the apartment, and the national thistle was prominently introduced in all the floricultural decorations. A numerous and fashionable company assembled, and dancing was kept up until a late hour.

THE TRADE OF FRANCE.—The French trade returns for the first three months of the year 1864 are before the public, and show an ever augmenting amount of imports and an extraordinary increase of exports. The imports for the first three months of 1863 were 701,099,000*fr.*, and the same period in 1864 gives 701,470,000*fr.* The great increase, however, is shown in the export trade. The report says:—"We have exported during the first three months of 1864 a quantity of merchandise valued at the enormous sum of 692,506,000*fr.* The month of April following alone gave a return of 282,941,000*fr.*; so that, taking the third of the year, we are exporting at the rate of 975,447,000*fr.* per four months. The corresponding period in 1863 gave 804,119,000*fr.*; for 1862, 702,282,000*fr.*; for 1861, 632,808,000*fr.*" It is reckoned that the export trade of France has advanced as nearly as possible fifty per cent since the new commercial treaty came into operation. The importations, though augmented, do not show anything like the same amount of increase.

THE CITY OF BRISTOL LIFE-BEAT.—An interesting ceremony took place on Wednesday, in Bristol, on the occasion of the presentation by that ancient city of a splendid life-boat, fully equipped, to the National Life-boat Institution. The boat, which is a self-righting one, is 32 ft. long, and was built in London, under the superintendence of the Institution. The presentation took place on the grounds of the West of England Agricultural Show, and there were present at the time about 20,000 persons. The Mayor of Bristol, who was accompanied by Earl Fortescue, Captain R. Tryon, R.N.; and other gentlemen, having presented the life-boat to the institution, Mr. Lewis, its secretary, accepted, in an appropriate speech, the gift, on behalf of its committee of management. He alluded to the indefatigable exertions of Captain Tryon, R.N., in collecting nearly £600 to pay the expense of the life-boat, &c., the success of which undertaking was mainly owing to that gentleman's valuable services. The life-boat is to be stationed at Padstow, on the shores of the Bristol Channel, and is to replace a smaller boat that was previously there. The Bristol people have named the boat the "Albert Edward," in compliment to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

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## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1864.

### "BUT YOU LAUGHED!"

PERHAPS there is no more common regret than that of the good things one might have uttered had the occasion been but foreseen. Suppose, for instance, that one of two opponents in argument should suddenly, bringing his adversary to an apparently complete defeat, exclaim, triumphantly, "Then, Sir, you admit yourself to be a donkey!" The other might, if prepared for this result, reply, with exultation, "Sir, I admit that after some increase of experience and some development of your education you might ripen into a capital judge of donkeys!" But this prevision, unhappily, seldom, if ever, comes into play in real life. In comedy and farce, witty writers have the advantage of leading the dialogue so as to bring out the most brilliant of repartees. It is this which constitutes the difference between the sparkling fun of the comic dramatists and the dreary commonplaces of ordinary conversation.

A recent incident of debate in the House of Commons deserves, from its intense ludicrousness, something more than mere passing mention in the report of proceedings in Parliament. An attack was made upon the Government in reference to an Indian affair of the Nawab of the Carnatic. The effort failed from its feebleness, and upon a division the Government obtained a majority. The great guns of the Treasury Bench had prudently reserved their fire. After the division this conduct was loudly complained of by the representatives of the minority. Mr. Pope Hennessy "thought it could only be by arrangement that no member of the Government had arisen to say a word with respect to the important subject on which the House had just been divided, although an honourable and learned gentleman on that side of the house was fully prepared to reply." Whereat there was a laugh, and no wonder. It is something to be prepared to reply to a speech which has been delivered, but to be so prepared for a speech which has not, and never will be, spoken, demands a degree of aptitude either superhuman or absurd. Mr. Hennessy may take either horn of the dilemma; or split the difference by admitting the power to be Hibernian. Then the Government was accused of having displayed exultation. This the Attorney-General denied, whereupon Mr. Malins said, "but you laughed." The Attorney-General explained that his laugh was caused by Mr. Hennessy's funny notion of a full reply to an undelivered speech.

There is, evidently, here an indication of a grave public loss. That is why we bring the matter thus prominently forward. Mr. Hennessy's honourable and learned friend evidently not only knows what he is going to say, but what the other side might, or ought to, have been going to say to induce him to say it. The idea opens up a rich field for the Parliamentary reports of the future. Let us have the undelivered speeches, by all means. They would form a lively collection. Tell us what Sir Charles Wood might have said, after the manner of the comic ballad of Guy Fawkes, who, "coming over Vauxhall Bridge to perpetrate his guilt, Sirs (that is to say, he might have done, but a little thing perwented him—the bridge it wasn't built, Sirs)," blew up the House of Parliament, ("that is to say," and so forth). Report for us Sir Fitzroy's crushing reply to Sir Charles's defence—that reply which would have been delivered but for the trifling obstacle of Sir Charles not having opened his lips upon the subject. The idea might even be carried out by giving the division lists as they would have appeared, the consequent change in the Ministry, the choice of an Hibernian Cabinet—all Celtic *pur sang*—none of them, as Sir Robert Peel was taunted with being, only Irish by the mother's side, or, like Lord Palmerston, only "amphibious," as Mr. Scully calls him, because "his ancestors generations back sojourned for a brief period in Ireland." And then, for the sake of historical accuracy, just mention that this might have been, "but it ended all in smoke, Sirs, for a little thing perwented it—Sir Charles, he never spoke, Sirs."

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.—From the report of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education for the year 1863, just issued, it appears that during the year the number of schools, or departments of schools under separate teachers, actually inspected was increased, as compared with 1862, by 312, and the number of children by 35,315. The number of certificated teachers was increased by 503. The number of new schoolhouses built was 125. The inspectors visited 11,230 daily schools, and found present in them 1,692,741 children, 9481 certificated teachers, and 13,849 apprentices. The female scholars were 45.08 per cent of the whole number, being the highest percentage which they have yet reached. The inspectors also visited forty separate training colleges, occupied by 3109 students, and 179 schools for pauper children. With regard to the expenditure of the grant, it seems there was a net decrease last year of £63,351 6s. 7d. The bluebook contains a great variety of statements, tables, &c., showing the operation of the revised code.

THE ROYAL NAVY.—Several Parliamentary returns relating to the present condition of the Navy have been just issued. Among these documents are returns showing the names of vessels paid off and cost of repairs to them during 1862-3; the names of vessels commissioned to replace those put out of commission; the names of all vessels in the reserve, and amount expended on them in 1862-3; and the total amount expended on new ships building and converted ships during that period; also the number of ships commissioned and paid off during 1862-3, 1863-4, including sailing ships. It appears from these returns that the estimated expenditure on building, in wages, during the financial year 1864-5, is £264,421; estimated expenditure on ships in commission in 1864-5, £127,492; estimated expenditure for ships in reserve for the same period, including repairs and preparing for service, £326,920. A supplementary estimate for the year 1864-5 states that the sum required for the purchase and completion, by contract, in accordance with the original agreement, of the *El Teuseen* and *El Monesir*, iron-clad ships, is £120,000.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY and the ROYAL FAMILY, according to present arrangements, are expected to reside at Windsor Castle till about the second week in July, when the Court will remove to Osborne, and afterwards to Windsor for a few days. An autumnal trip will then be made to Balmoral.

THE EMPEROR and EMPRESS of RUSSIA arrived at Potsdam on Thursday evening week to visit the King of Prussia. The latter received them at the railway station. A grand review was given in their honour next day, and a state dinner at night. The Royal and Imperial party have since gone to Kissingen, where the Emperor and Empress of Austria have joined them.

THE KING of DENMARK and the Royal family opened the railway from Copenhagen to Elsinore on the 8th inst., and were everywhere along the line received with the greatest enthusiasm.

THE EMPEROR and EMPRESS of MEXICO arrived at Jamaica on the 21st ult., and, after paying their respects to the authorities of the island, proceeded next day for Vera Cruz.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION will be opened in the evening, as of late years, on and after the 27th instant.

THE O'CONNOR DON, M.P. for Roscommon, will shortly marry Miss Tenison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louisa Tenison.

OLD BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE, London, was last week finally closed, and its removal commenced, to make way for the new structure. The temporary bridge was at the same time opened for traffic.

A GYMNASIUM is about to be provided for the soldiers quartered in Winchester Barracks.

NO LESS than 7324 sheep are reported to have been killed by dogs in Ireland in the year 1863.

THE CIRCASSIAN EMIGRATION still continues. The emigrants are dying by hundreds.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday afternoon. This society has now attained its 163rd anniversary. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Lincoln.

PRINCE COUZA has been received by the Sultan with great distinction, and, as is reported, the concentration of Turkish troops on the Danube has been countermanded, it may be believed that the explanation the Prince has given has been satisfactory to the Porte.

THE HAMMERSMITH and CITY RAILWAY, in connection with the Great Western and Metropolitan lines, was opened for traffic on Monday morning.

THE ANCIENT ORDER of FORESTERS has forwarded to the National Life-boat Institution £255, to be appropriated in the purchase of a life-boat, to be called "The Forester." It is proposed to station the boat at New Quay, on the Cardiganshire coast.

THE CITY GARIBOLDI COMMITTEE have resolved to discontinue the collection of subscriptions to the testimonial fund till the General shall again visit this country, and in the mean time to hand over the amount in hand to Garibaldi's order.

THE GALWAY PACKET COMPANY have had another period of three months granted to them in order that they may make an effort to fulfil their engagements with the Post Office department before the contract shall be annulled.

SOME DEMONSTRATIONS against the Papal Government have taken place in Rome, and led to the arrest of several persons.

M. RENAN has been formally dismissed from his office of Professor at the College of France, and the decree appointing him to the assistant-curatorship of the Imperial library has been cancelled.

THE ENGINEER of an OCEAN STEAMER—a North Briton—on being asked lately why it was that the chief engineer of almost all the fine steamers afloat were Scotchmen, answered, "Well, ye see, the Irish are just quite out of the question; and, as for the English, somehow or other it's no in them."

THE LAST DRAWINGROOM of the season was held at St. James's Palace on Tuesday, by the Princess of Wales, in the name and by command of her Majesty. The number of presentations was unusually great, and from an early hour till late in the afternoon the thoroughfares leading to the Palace presented a gay and animated appearance.

THE CONSERVATIVES of Southampton have announced their intention of bringing forward Mr. Russell Gurney, Q.C., in conjunction with Mr. Alderman Rose, at the next general election.

AN OHIO PAPER tells of one Captain Stanton Sholes, who had been bald fifty years, but who at the age of ninety-two, after a severe headache, had a new crop of hair of rapid growth.

MADEIRAINE SMITH, of criminal notoriety, is reported to have recently died in the south of England. She had married a teacher who did not know her history; but she was finally recognised. The shock killed her husband, and she soon followed him.

DURING some excavations at Leith several human skeletons, inclosed in rude cists, were discovered, and are attributed to a period anterior to the Roman invasion.

THREE BROTHERS, officers of the 1st Regiment of Prussian Foot Guards, have been dismissed from the army because they avowed duelling was contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church, of which they were members.

NEWS RECEIVED FROM POLAND THROUGH GERMANY gives a hideous picture of the severities practised in some districts by the Russian authorities. Men, women, and children are described as being driven, literally half naked, to Siberia.

A MEMORIAL to SIR HUMPHRY DAVY, about to be erected in his native town, Penzance, Cornwall, is to take the form of almshouses for persons of respectability who have been reduced to poverty by unforeseen circumstances, two maiden ladies of Penzance having offered £1000 towards the memorial on condition that it should be of the character mentioned.

IN MAKING A NEW SHAFT at the VICTORIA COLLIERY, PONTEFRAC, three men descended to fire a blast. It exploded before they had reached the top of the shaft, and two of the men were thrown out of the skip and killed.

THREE HEN TURKEYS, belonging to Mr. Corbin, Dean's Court Farm, near Wimborne, lately sat on sixty-two eggs, the result being that sixty-one of the eggs were hatched. The whole of the brood are alive and strong.

A POUND OF MEAT NOW COSTS FORTY CENTS (about 1s. 8d.) in NEW YORK. A tender loin beefsteak costs 80 cents raw. The newspapers foresee trouble likely to arise, and urge upon all classes to do away with the use of meat partially, if not entirely.

£2000 of GOLD BARS were stolen from the Royal mail-steamer Solent, between Colon and Jamaica, on the 22nd, 23rd, or 24th of March last. The gold was among the luggage of a passenger. A reward of £300 has been offered in the Panama papers for the recovery of the treasure.

AT COIMBRA fires have occurred in the houses of several of the professors. Suspensions have fallen on the students, in consequence of which the council of the University have suspended the lectures until some provision has been made for the security of the professors.

AN AMERICAN has measured and weighed the Federal national debt, which is 4,000,000,000 dollars. Estimated in silver dollars, he says that, if they were placed edge to edge, they would stretch nearly 90,000 miles. Their weight would be 125,000 tons, which would load 62,500 railway trucks, the aggregate length of which would be 355 miles.

MARGARET MCCABRON, an old beggarwoman, aged about sixty, living in a cabin at Derryard, near Rosslea, in the county of Fermanagh, was found barbarously murdered, with her throat cut from ear to ear, on the 1st inst. The motive for committing the crime is believed to be to obtain a small sum of money which the poor creature was supposed to possess.

THE PRINCIPAL GROUP of the ALBERT MEMORIAL—"Europe"—has been confided to Mr. P. Macdowell, R.A., for execution. It had been at first offered to Mr. Gibson, R.A., but was declined by that artist on the ground of advancing years. Mr. Foley, R.A., has been intrusted with the group "Asia." The groups "Africa" and "America" have been given to Messrs. Theed and Bell.

AT A FANCY-DRESS BALL in PARIS recently a lady was seen in a very low-necked dress while floating and waving an abundance of green gauze. She was politely asked by a gentleman what she personated. "The sea, Monsieur." "At low tide, then, madame," observed he.

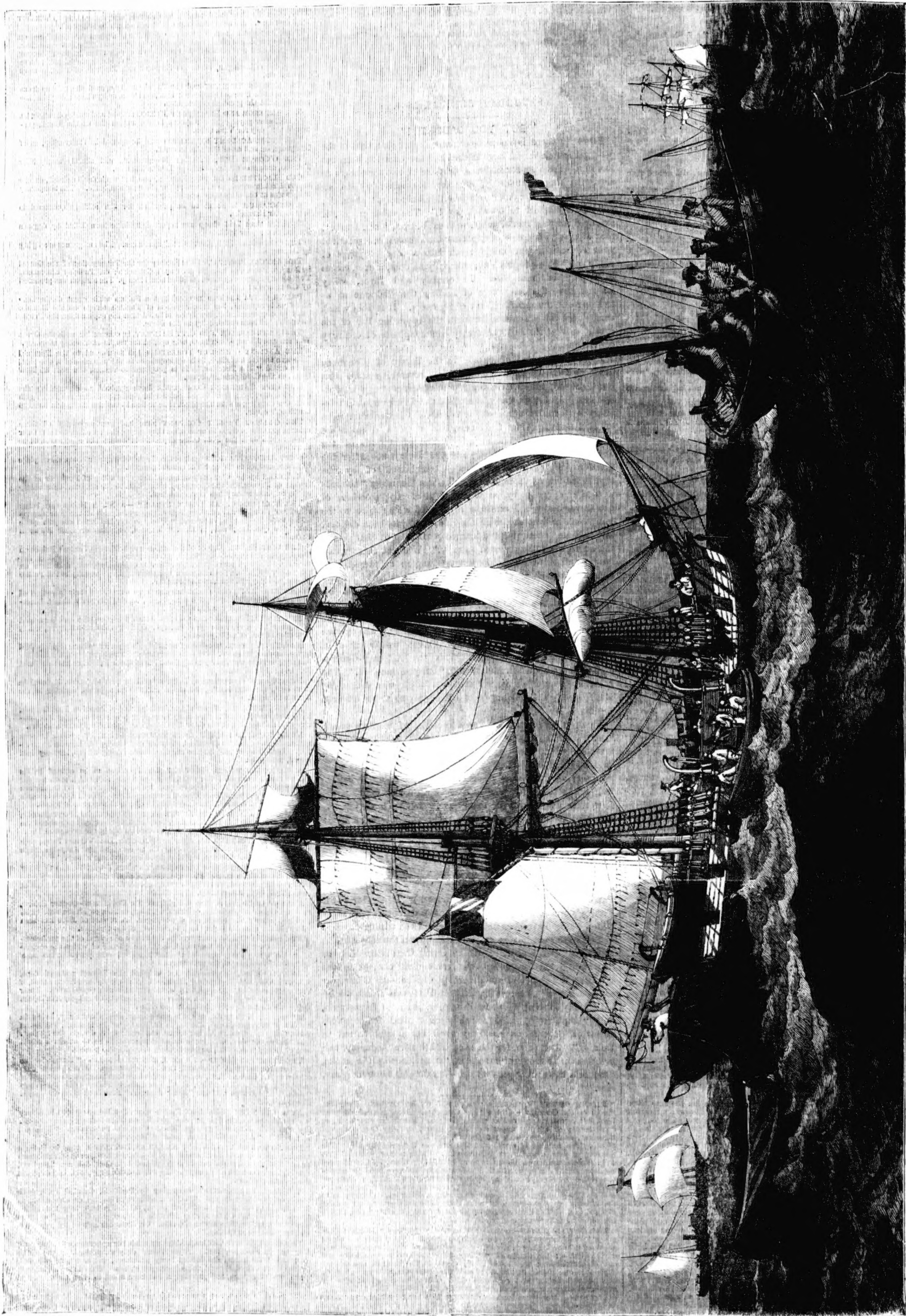
DURING ONE of the RECENT AMERICAN BATTLES a man in Federal uniform was seen to leave the ranks and to advance towards the Confederate lines. The Confederates raised their pieces, but they did not fire; and, passing on, he entered their camp. He was a daring spy, who had explored the Federal positions.

A WELSH FISHING-BOAT, belonging to Pwllheli, trawled up a glass bottle on the night of the 10th inst., near San Badrig or Causeway, in Cardigan Bay, containing a strip of paper, with the following inscription thereon:—"Joseph Culbert, ship Matilda, lost, coast of Africa," and the word "struck" written across the side. On the other side of the paper was written "James M'Fadden."

THE CONFEDERATE CRUISER *Alabama* made her appearance in Cherbourg Harbour on Saturday last. After being duly authorised by the Commandant of the place, she landed forty prisoners, whom the captain said he had taken out of Federal ships destroyed at sea. The *Alabama* stands in great need of repairs, and permission has been asked to have them done at Cherbourg.

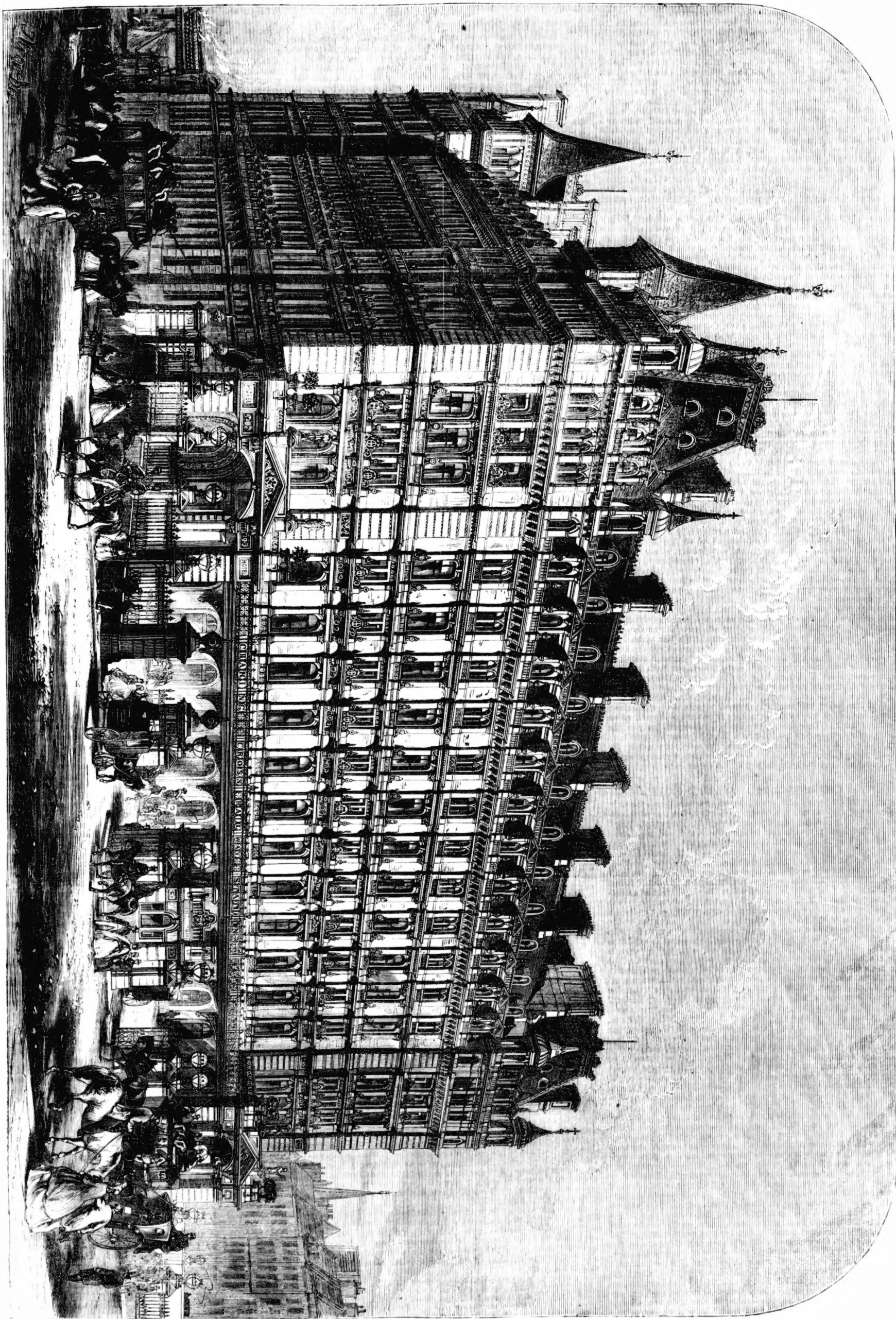
AT NICE, lately, a man was saved from death by apoplexy by the energy and promptitude of his neighbour, a working man. "I'll give Blaise ten Napoleons when I see him," remarked gentleman redivivus to a friend. A week later the friend said, "Have you seen Blaise?" "No; but he'll lose nothing by that; I have five Napoleons here for him." A week later the same question. "No; but I am going to give him a pig." A week later ditto. "No. Blaise has not got the pig, we have killed and salted it, and I had a good mind to send to you a ham; but I won't forget Blaise."





"FISHING ON THE BANKS OF NEWFOUNDLAND."—(DRAWN BY G. H. ANDREWS)—SEE PAGE 391.





THE NEW CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY-STATION AND HOTEL.—(E. W. BARRY, A.R.A., ARCHITECT.)



### COD-FISHING ON THE BANKS OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE great cod fishery of the northern Atlantic Ocean is by far the largest and most important of all the fisheries carried on in any part of the world. It is prosecuted with great vigour by the inhabitants of the United States of America, the British colonies, and by the people of several countries in Europe. Cod fish is exceedingly abundant throughout all the bays, gulfs, and lesser seas which are portions of the northern Atlantic Ocean, and the inhabitants of the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Lower Canada, and Labrador, all fish the waters that wash their own coasts; but it is in the large tracts of comparatively shallow water which lie upon what are generally known as the Banks of Newfoundland that the great fishery is carried on. This fishing-ground is estimated to extend 600 miles in length, and is 200 in breadth: it is composed of solid masses of rock, having generally deep precipitous sides. The ocean which ebbs and flows over this great submarine mountainous plateau is as productive of human food as a tract of land of the same area, and, although nothing is expended for either seed or tillage, the nations of Europe and America have for several centuries annually reaped the most abundant harvests, while their most indefatigable and continuous exertions with nets, lines, and every contrivance they could imagine to capture the fish, has not caused the slightest apparent diminution of the productiveness of the fishing-ground.

The Newfoundland cod fishery is of two kinds—the shore fishery and the off-shore or sea fishery. The former commences about the middle of May, when herrings are taken and used for bait. In June the capelin appears, and then is the height of the fishing season, and every man, woman, and child is employed in one way or other. The fish is caught with hooks and lines. Two or three persons row a mile or two off the land and cast the lines into the sea. Each line is about twenty-five fathoms long, armed with several hooks, and has one end made fast to the boat's thwart. The fish generally are so plentiful that the boat is laden in a very short time. Having caught a cargo of fish the boat returns to the fish stage on the shore. This stage is a platform or rude pier constructed of fir poles, having a floor to it covered with branches of the spruce fir or other material. When the boat arrives alongside the stage-head, the fishermen cast the fish upon the top of it with a kind of pike or prong in a manner very similar to the way in which new hay is cast on to a waggon in a hayfield. On the stage are usually the females and elder children of the fishermen's families, and the skilled hands, whose assistants they are, called the leader and splitter. The leader cuts the fish open that the liver may be taken out and preserved for the sake of the oil, the splitter extracts the backbone, and the offal is thrown back into the sea. The good appearance of the fish when cured will depend a good deal upon the skill with which the operation of splitting is performed, and the man who is clever at it gets the highest wages when working for the merchants. When split open the fish are salted, laid in piles to drain, washed and salted again, and finally laid in the sun, on clear days, to dry and harden. While thus exposed they require constant attention, and the women are continually looking after them; for if the weather should become wet or damp they must be laid in heaps with their skins outward, in the same way that hay is cooked by the farmer to preserve it from injury while drying. The fish stage alluded to is generally called a "flako." They are numerous in all the harbours of the coasts, and may be seen perched about on the sides of the cliffs, on isolated rocks, and in places, occasionally, where it would seem almost impossible to get at them. The stages are of stronger construction than the flakes, and are used as piers for loading and unloading the fish, and are more frequently found in the harbours, where they are the only landing-places likely to be met with.

The deep-sea or off-shore cod-fishing is carried on in vessels varying in size from fifty to four hundred tons. The fish are taken with hooks and lines in the same manner as in the in-shore fishing, the vessels being provided with a number of boats and a crew for each boat. Sometimes the fish are taken from a platform round the vessel, and the gutting and splitting are performed on the deck. When a vessel has got a sufficient freight she carries it to an establishment on the land, where it is dried and prepared for market. Fish not prepared is considered inferior to that taken on the coast, as it deteriorates by being stowed so long in the vessel's hold.

The French have cultivated their Newfoundland fishery very much of late years, and send out from the ports of their northern coasts hundreds of most efficient vessels to prosecute the fishery on the Great Bank. They leave the coast of France very early in the spring and return late in the autumn. They have certain privileges on the coast of Newfoundland, and occupy a locality named St. Peters, where they cure the fish. Our illustration represents one of these vessels prosecuting the fishery on the Great Bank.

### THE CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY HOTEL.

AMONG the changes which the extension of the railway system in the metropolis is producing, none are more marked or less objectionable than that which has transformed the site of Hungerford Market and of the buildings which used to stand between it and the Strand into that of the Charing-cross Railway Station and Hotel, of which edifice we this week publish an Engraving. This building, the ground floor of which is chiefly occupied by the railway booking-offices, while the upper stories form the railway hotel, is set back about 120 ft. from the public roadway of the Strand, between Villiers-street and Craven-street. A forecourt is thus left for the accommodation of the carriage traffic of the hotel and station. It is inclosed with a handsome iron railing, which is relieved by several piers surmounted with lamps; there is a police lodge at each of the principal gates in the Strand; and the carriage gateway towards the west end of the railings, near Craven-street, has a portico which is similar to the portico of the hotel entrance, with its red granite columns, bases of grey granite, and capitals handsomely carved. The materials chiefly used in the exterior of the edifice are white bricks for the facing, and terra-cotta for the ornaments, while the mouldings are of cement. This is one of the first buildings in London in which terra-cotta has been so largely used; the "nail-headed" bricks, which are employed in the quoins and piers, are also a novelty and have a pleasing effect. The roof is of that form, borrowed from the Louvre at Paris, which has lately come so much into vogue for our large public buildings; and which presents, we believe, some important practical advantages, though it has still a quaint appearance to an English eye. There is a sort of verandah or glazed roof, with an ornamental iron cresting, to cover the pavement along the front of the booking-offices. The main entrance to the hotel is at the east end of the building, close to the corner of Villiers-street, but the hotel may likewise be entered from the railway platform, communicating with the refreshment-room of the station. In the interior the grand staircase leads to the upper floors; and on the first floor are the general coffee-room, a ladies' coffee-room and a ladies' retiring-room, a reading-room, a smoking-room with a convenient balcony overlooking the station, a billiard-room, a large room for meetings, and a committee-room; also several suites of apartments, besides the necessary service-rooms. A second handsome staircase communicates from this to all the upper floors, which contain numerous suites of apartments, as well as separate sitting-rooms, bed-rooms, dressing-rooms, and bath-rooms; the total amount of sleeping accommodation being 250 beds. A novel feature of the internal arrangements is that there is a rising room, fitted with comfortable seats, in which the guests may be conveyed up or down if they feel indisposed to use the staircases. The kitchen and offices are on the basement floor, in Villiers-street; but, as there is, towards the river, a considerable declivity in that street, they are all above ground. The hotel is being constructed by Messrs. Lucas Brothers, under the superintendence of Mr. E. W. Barry, A.R.A., the architect.

The Eleanor Cross, which is now being erected by the Charing-cross Railway Company in the centre of the forecourt, will be between sixty and seventy feet in height. It will be a restoration of the beautiful cross which was originally erected, about the year 1292, by King Edward I. in memory of his wife, on the spot now occupied by King Charles's statue, that being where her body last

rested on its way from Hardby, near Lincoln, where she died on the 28th of November, 1290, to Westminster Abbey, in which she was buried on the 17th of December in the same year.

### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

WE have had rumours of wars. Indeed, the air, as the *Times* said, has been full of rumours. "A vote of want of confidence in the Government is to be proposed. The Conservatives are to close their ranks. The Government is to be defeated. There will be a dissolution of Parliament in less than a month." Such were the reports which flew about the clubs, and were openly discussed in the lobbies, and whispered in the house. And at the time it appeared that fact would falsify all the prophecies which I have ventured to utter through this column. For there were no more fluttering canards. The rumours, as I soon came to learn, had a basis of truth. There had been a meeting at Lord Derby's, or somewhere else; propositions had been made to go in and win upon a certain contingency, and accepted; and every Conservative aspirant for office cooked his beaver and looked defiant. But in the midst of all these rumours clattering in my ear I never doubted for a moment that this project would end, like so many projects of the like kind, in smoke. The contingency was this—"If our men can be got together." Ay, there's the rub; and, having sedulously watched the Conservative party for several years, I felt confident that on this rock the project would split and go to pieces; and so it has turned out. The spirits were called, and invoked earnestly, but they would not come. Some politely refused, others made no answer, and altogether, I am told, the whips found that at least seventy votes could not be depended upon. The reasons given by the recusants were various. "You cannot win, and it will be foolish to try." "If you condemn the Government policy you must declare your own. And what is that—peace or war? If it be peace, then there can be but small difference between you and the Government, and you will have nothing wherewith to go to the country. If it be war, I cannot support you." These are some of the reasons expressed; but there are others which have not been openly expressed, but only whispered amongst friends—viz., the old dislike of the Conservative leader, which certainly is not diminished, but rather intensified. Then there is the feud between the Protestant party and the Catholics. In short, as I have more than once said, the Conservative party is demoralised, and, to all appearance, hopelessly so. The Government whips laughed when they heard that war was to be declared, for they know, if their opponents do not, what divisions there are in the Conservative camp.

Business is very forward in the House of Commons. There are about eighty more votes in Supply to be taken, and these may be secured before the month is out. There are few bills of importance on the paper. An Irish Chancery Reform Bill looks threatening, but the Session will not be prolonged for that. If the Irish Attorney-General can work it through in time, well; if not, it must be slaughtered with other innocents. The House, if no political crisis stops the way, might be prorogued in the middle of next month; but the probability is that it will drag on as usual till the last week. Private business is rather behind hand, but this will not keep the House from rising. Private bills are very numerous this year; there are upon the register about 430; but many of them are withdrawn, and many more have failed to pass the ordeal of their Committees.

I have heard a capital story about an archbishop. Before the right reverend father attained his high rank he was accustomed to take chloroform for some pain which troubled him. One night he proposed to take this medicine. "Do not take it, my dear," said his affectionate wife, "you know how it affects your head; you will go mad some day." But her husband would not be persuaded. The next morning he got a letter informing him that he was Archbishop of —, and rushed down to his wife, exclaiming, "I am Archbishop of — I am Archbishop of —." This was so improbable that his wife thought that he had really gone mad. "There," she cried, "I was afraid that nasty chloroform would take away your senses." "I tell you I am Archbishop of —," shouted her husband. Whereupon his wife called for the servant to fetch the doctor, and then burst into tears, thinking that her dear husband had really lost his wits, and she could not get rid of the illusion until she had seen and read the letter, when she, too, almost went mad, but with joy.

There is a vacancy for the county of Durham. Poor Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest is dead. For a long time he has been under the care of a keeper, and hopelessly gravitating to the grave or a lunatic asylum. It will be remembered that he married a daughter of the Duke of Newcastle. His Grace, too, is in a hopeless state; and the poor lady, now widowed, may soon be fatherless. There is to be a sharp contest for Durham. Sir Hedworth Williamson, of Whitburn, is to be the Liberal candidate; but I have not yet heard the name of the Conservative champion.

"And is old Double dead?" and is the London Shakespeare Memorial Committee defunct? According to the *Daily News*, even so. The business of the bunglers is over, and what have they to show for the splash and the hurry, and the fuss and the worry, they made? Little more than nothing—a small balance, which, after paying expenses, they intend to place in the hands of trustees. The sum collected by subscription amounted to about £1100; £800 has been consumed in expenses; so £300 will be all that the trustees will be burdened with. How does this accord with the Hon. W. Cowper's statement to the city magistrates that the sum of £3000 was already subscribed? What sort of statue can be erected with £300? and what site is to be chosen for it? The Green Park, the Thames Embankment when finished, the Isle of Dogs, or Hicks's Hall? Alas, poor committee! now quite chafffallen. It is but £300! It is enough to make any members vow to be no more of service to their country, or to place themselves in a national and literary "attitude," which should only be assumed by men of mark, of whom the world has heard.

And, apropos, of course you have heard of two claimants to blood relationship with the poet. Lineal descendants of the author of the *Plays* and the *Sonnets* should be looked to. How is it they have not spoken out before? There has been enough outcry about the Bard since this time last year. Many members of the committee of mismanagement above mentioned six months ago would have looked upon even one of the claimants as a perfect godsend. Mr. Winwood Reade tells us how in an African village the king of the savages, happy in the presence of a white man in his hut, goes to neighbouring powers that he may have the honour and glory of saying to the rival king, "Come and see my white man!" What joy to an active member of the Shakespeare Memorial Committee to run about among his friends with a real live descendant of the man of Stratford, and say, "Look at my Mr. Shakespeare!" Why it would have made the fortune of a small, industrious *littérateur*. And how those members who had not got a real live Shakespeare to exhibit would have objected, and examined, and urged doubts of poetical Perkin-Warbeckery and Shakespearean Lambert-Simulism! Two Shakespeares at once would have been an embarrassment of riches! By-the-way, the Stratford Tercentenary Committee are not likely to be troubled with an embarrassment of riches, for it is said that the celebration will leave them with a deficit of nearly £3000.

From such a subject it is a facile descent to the Civil List pensions. What paltry stipends for living celebrities and the widows and connections of the dead—£100, £80, £60, £50, and £30! Is it worth toiling for or having? If Government recognises literary and scientific merit at all, the recognition should be liberal. A rich nation should be ashamed of such pauper doles. As Robert Brough said in his poem:—

More thoroughly English blood  
Than mine doth in no veins dance;  
But matters, I own, like those I've shown,  
Are managed much better in France.

On Tuesday last—Drawing-room day—I saw a number of policemen in Piccadilly with the new police-helmet "on their brows." It is very like a fireman's casque with the brass off. It is of military shape and civil material. But the helmet is not the only

alteration in the uniform of the gallant divisions numbered from A to Z. The old tail-coat has been displaced for the modern tunic, and—surpassing change of all!—the truncheon, the staff of office, is no longer worn in the coat-pocket, but, neatly sheathed in a leather case with a protecting lid over it, dangles from the side like a sword-bayonet. Let our Guardsmen look to it. The new uniform is becoming from an area point of view, and cooks and housemaids are susceptible to costume! There is but one fear to rack the bosoms of alarmists. The civil force will look too military. Ugly things have lately been said of the Irish constabulary—that they are too pipeclay, too clattery and scabardy, for the pursuit of thieves and murderers. May not our metropolitan peelers, with their dragon headpieces and sheathed truncheons, feel that their corps was formed for higher things than the capture of pickpockets and detection of ticket-of-leave men?

Visitors to the French Gallery last week had an opportunity of seeing M<sup>rs</sup>. Jerriah's likeness of the infant heir of the Prince of Wales. As a portrait, it was, of course, most interesting, especially to the ladies, who rendered it almost impossible for the critic to get a view of it. The head was treated in a masterly way, and seemed to bear the impress of truth. But the effect of the whole picture, I regret to say, was far from agreeable, owing, perhaps, chiefly to a predominance of a harsh cold blue in the drapery, unrelieved by any judiciously introduced modulating or complimentary tints. There was an absence of notable chiaroscuro, too, which imparted an unpleasant look of crudeness to the work. The Royal family this year have been altogether unlucky in their choice of portrait-painters—witness the Royal Academy infelicities!

The discovery that the ova of the salmon were fructified externally led to the art of pisciculture, and notwithstanding the fierce controversies upon the growth of the parr, the appearance of the smolt, and the period of the change from smolt to grilse or from grilse to salmon, that art has practically advanced until, in the present year, we hear of 124,700 salmon, charr, and trout placed in the Thames under the auspices of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and by the care and skill of Mr. Ponder. This, and a number of equally interesting facts, I find duly set forth in Mr. Frank Buckland's "Manual of Salmon and Trout Hatching," a little pamphlet of six and thirty pages, which, beginning with a striking portrait of the salmon on his first appearance, traces his history and peculiarities throughout a brilliant career, which ends at Mr. Groves's shop, or more properly, at a fish dinner. After describing the natural method of growth, Mr. Buckland, in that bright, easy, pleasant way which is his happy characteristic, gives some very plain instructions for fish hatching as an in-door recreation, and himself undertakes to reply to any reasonable questions on the subject in order to render his correspondents adequate assistance. Amongst other interesting information, including some account of the operations at Hunningue, I come upon a startling statistical statement, the force of which no alliteration will properly express, and which must ultimately lead to results, though what the results will be it is difficult to guess. First, young salmon can be turned into the Thames at the rate of four a penny. Secondly, 15,500 Rhine salmon just operated upon by Mr. Ponder have, therefore, cost £16 2s. 11d. Thirdly, I am requested to imagine their return at the end of two years and eight months, not one of them under 12lb. Fourthly, that they will be worth 1s. per pound (Mr. Buckland says, alas! and I say "ditto" to Mr. Buckland). Fifthly, that therefore the fish, which originally cost £16 2s. 11d., become in a short time, without any further expense of any kind, worth no less than £9300! thus returning 576 times the outlay. "Truly," says Mr. Buckland, "a noble speculation, if nothing better." With the utmost admiration for Mr. Buckland's enthusiasm, is not this statement a little, just a little, injudicious? No properly constituted "promoter" can withstand such figures as these; and I confidently expect to see the columns of the daily press occupied with the prospectus of the "Great Fish-hatching Company and Piscicultural Credit Association, Limited," with secured river rights from Twickenham Ait to Blackwall Pier, and a favourable sea lease of all the waterage as far as the Downs.

### THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

All comedies terminate with the betrothal of young couples, paternal blessings, and promises of dowries and fortunes. Dramatists seldom deal with honeymoons. Like match-making mamas, they marry off their boys and girls and have done with them. To this general rule there have been, of course, special exceptions. Some characters have been such old friends and favourites with the public that not even matrimony could part them, and one of these exceptions is my Lord Dundreary. Although that eccentric peer had stammered, lisped, hopped, and chopped false logic for nearly five hundred nights, the *habitués* of the Haymarket Theatre longed for more of him. They wished to see and hear after what fashion he wore wedlock's rose-leaf shackles; and, to gratify this pardonable curiosity, on Monday last, after the play of "David Garrick," Mr. Buckstone brought out a new farce, called "Dundreary Married and Done For." The audience found their noble friend not only "bored," but horribly tormented by his wife's relatives, friends, and connections. His mother-in-law, Lady Trenchard—the Mrs. Mountchessington of the comedy of "Our American Cousin," but now the very full-blown bride of Sir Edward Trenchard—domineers over him, teaches his wife disobedience, and orders architects to rebuild his country seat. His brother-in-law De Boots borrows his money, wears his dressing-gown, and "annexes" his favourite gun, with which he shoots a pet dog; his other brother-in-law, Captain Vernon, rides his best horse sailor fashion, or, rather, tailor fashion, and breaks Jupiter's knees; Sir Edward Trenchard turns out to be thorough humbug; and—crowning annoyance—Mr. Abel Muroott, the conscientious drunkard of the comedy, entirely cured of his delirium tremens—and his conscientiousness, attired as a platform philanthropist and gusher-general, insists on a subscription to a fund for supplying negro nurslings with toothpicks. From all this domestic turmoil his good genius, Asa Trenchard, who has settled down into a gentleman-farmer, relieves him by precept and example. Dundreary asserts his dignity, banishes the harpies, architects, brothers-in-law, and sham sentimentalists from his house, asserts the marital authority, and terrifies his wife by threatening to "sell off the estate, mortgage his mother-in-law, and raffle the baby."

It is too late in the day to praise Mr. Sothorn's assumption of Lord Dundreary. Suffice it that, from the moment his voice was heard to the curtain's fall, the audience acknowledged his power. Whisker, moustache, eyeglass, white hands, checked trousers, lip, and all, he was the Lord Dundreary whom, though introduced to them not three years ago, everyone feels they have known all their lives. Mr. Buckstone, as the Yankee cousin, slightly Anglicised by the cares of a family, a farm, time, and turnip-cutting, was as funny as ever. Miss Snowden was a stately mother-in-law, and Miss Caroline Hill a charming Lady Dundreary. Mr. Chippendale was most amusing as the Temperance Torturer, and Mr. Braid and Mr. Walter Gordon, Mr. Clark and Mr. Coe, aided the success of the farce. I would suggest, however, the lopping of some exorcences of dialogue. It is better to use the pruning-knife before the production of a piece than after. The *dramatis personæ* and the author, Mr. H. J. Byron, were clamorously called for when the curtain fell.

On Saturday, at the ADELPHI, Miss Bateman took her leave—pamperers would say Lea(h)ve—of the public for a time, and Mr. Webster made a speech on the occasion. This week the "Dead Heart," which, despite its lugubrious title, appears to possess a wondrous dramatic vitality, has been reproduced!

The ripeness of green peas invariably heralds the final fall of green curtains. When gooseberries come in, actors go out. Within the next fortnight or so the Haymarket, the Lyceum, the New Royalty, and the Strand close their doors.

I hear that Robert Brough's admirable burlesque of "Masaniello" is to be revived at the OLYMPIC. Who is to play the famous King Fisherman? Perhaps Mr. Robson. Who knows?

I regret that an error (I know not by what mistake or inadvertence)



crept into this Journal last week. Mr. Edmund Falconer is, I am happy to say, living. It was the death of Mrs. Falconer that it was my melancholy duty to record.

#### ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

That very large number of persons who have declared that nothing could be better than "Mrs. Roselaf's Evening Party," as described by Mr. John Parry, will be compelled, when they have seen that gentleman in his now descriptive story of the Seaside, or "Mrs. Roselaf Out of Town," to recant their previously expressed opinion. Many as are the proofs of genius Mr. Parry has given to the public, this last production surpasses them all. Our old friends, Colonel and Mrs. Roselaf, little Florence, Mr. Yeansy, Miss Gushington, and the Flawenzas are supposed to meet on the seabeach, and then follows a personation and realisation of the figures in Mr. Frith's famous picture of "Ramegate Sands." Darling little Florence is immersed by old Mrs. Ducker, and driven off in a goat carriage. Then follows a wonderful imitation of the foreign artist who sings under difficulties, his crescendo being always interrupted by a passing dray or a barking dog; the town band plays, to the delight of old gentlemen with camp-stools and nursery-maids with perambulators. The organ-man is so perfect an assumption of character that the audience almost believe they see the organ and the monkey. The story concludes with a sail in a pleasure-boat, which, however agreeable to the rest of the party, is a terrible disturbance to the diaphragm of Mr. Yeansy. The whole performance—and Mr. Parry has but his piano to assist him, and it is he who assists it—is of the sea, breezy. As we listen we can sniff the salt air and see the white dots of sail in the blue distance. It is the sublime of characteristic vocal and mimetic art. Mrs. Roselaf was compelled to give her "Evening Party" for 350 nights; she will doubtless have to remain by the sparkling sea waves for twice that period.

#### OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

THE great musical event of the day is, still, the appearance of Mdle. Patti as the heroine in Gounod's "Faust." On that topic our contemporaries have been rhapsodising unintermittingly for more than a week, each one rhapsodising more rhapsodically than his predecessor. Such furious concord as this challenges the severest examination, but the praise lavished so recklessly upon Mdle. Patti's Margherita is really deserved. All we object to is the profuse manner in which it is poured out. Never, within the memory of the oldest critic, did an operatic performance cause such a run upon superlatives before. Thus, those who come last before the public have nothing to say. The race of laudation was commenced almost before the new Margherita had ceased to sing, and from the very morning after the first performance until now the daily journals have been striving to surpass one another in the easy art of praising Mdle. Patti. Those who started first seemed, from the pace they were going at, as though they would soon exhaust themselves; but few broke down before the end of the first column, and some contrived to turn the corner in good style, and were running well down the second column when we left them. It is too late for us to enter now. We feel that we are distanced—indeed, that the race is already run.

We have saved our breath, however, and can calmly assure our readers that the great mass of our contemporaries, at this time at least, in the right. Mdle. Patti's Margherita is something to be seen, to be admired, and that cannot be forgotten. It is not Mdle. Patti's best part any more than Rosina or Amina are her best parts; but it is one of several parts which she represents to perfection. That she should sing the music of Margherita and Rosina equally well is not so wonderful; but that she should identify herself so completely as she does with each of these very different personages is a proof of high dramatic genius.

If the departure of Mdle. Lucca has enabled us to hear Mdle. Patti in the part of Margaret, so that this real loss is, in one respect, a gain, the departure of Herr Wachtel has, hitherto, brought us no advantage. The "sensation-tenor" is replaced in "Stradella" by Signor Naudin, who, however, will scarcely succeed in rendering M. Flotow's work a favourite at the Royal Italian Opera. "Stradella" will probably be found a useful opera for cutting up into quadrilles; but for dramatic purposes its music is scarcely fitted. It possesses neither sentiment nor brilliancy, and its occasional prettiness is of a very common order. It has been admirably put upon the stage, and the only pity is that so much care should have been wasted upon it. Surely, there are better operas than "Stradella" still unheard in England?

"Robert le Diable" was produced on Saturday at Her Majesty's Theatre, with Mdle. Wippen in the part of Alice, Mdle. Liebert as Isabella, Signor Gardoni as Robert, Signor Junca as Bertram, and Signor Bettini as Raimbault. Mdle. Wippen, who on this occasion made her first appearance in England, has a fine soprano voice and considerable dramatic talent. Signor Gardoni is known to be a singer of great taste and experience, with a feeble and incomplete voice, which he contrives to turn to excellent account in some of the lighter Italian operas, but which is not at all suited to such a part as Robert. The music given to Robert is written as if for a trumpet, and requires far more vigorous utterance than is to be found in the reed-like tones of Signor Gardoni. But the best singers in the world often take a fancy to parts for which they are not fitted, and the public will readily forgive Signor Gardoni for appearing as Robert if he will undertake a few of the Italian operatic characters in which he is always so remarkably successful.

Mdle. Trebelli (another member of Mr. Mapleson's company who is never heard to so much advantage as in genuine Italian opera) has been singing at the Philharmonic, where her rendering of "Pensa alla patria" must have made all who heard it regret that—in spite of our two so-called Italian operas—we have now so rarely an opportunity of hearing true Italian music sung in the true Italian style. At the eighth and last Philharmonic Concert for the present season a new symphony, by Professor Sterndale Bennett, and a new violin concerto, by Herr Joachim, are to be produced—the violin concerto to be executed by Herr Joachim himself.

Why, by-the-way, have most of our contemporaries taken to calling violins "fiddles"? They are fiddles, no doubt, and if a spade is to be called a spade, there is no reason why a fiddle also should not go by its proper name, and why Joachim, Sivi, Wieniawski, Lotto, and the rest of the violinists should not be spoken of as "fiddlers." Only let our contemporaries be consistent, and employ familiar names generally in describing instrumental performers. Let the Jarretts and Viviers be spoken of as horn-blowers; the Harpers, as trumpeters; the Prattens, as flute-players; the Chippas, as drummers; and, if the life is ever used in the orchestra, let him who plays it be termed a fifer. We hate to read in a musical article that So-and-So "presided at the drums;" and such words as "flautist," "cornist" (which, by-the-way, suggests Mr. Eisenberg) are simply abominable. On the whole, we are inclined to welcome the substitution of "fiddler" for violinist as a desirable novelty.

At the second of Mrs. John Macfarren's "Mornings at the Piano-forte" the giver of the entertainment played, in her usual graceful and expressive style, Beethoven's well-known sonata in C minor, the finale from Dussak's "Plus Ultra" sonata, and other pieces, including a "caprice" by Brissac, which, by general desire, was repeated. Mdme. Gilardoni and Miss Marian Walsh were the vocalists. The musical lecture by Mr. G. A. Macfarren adds greatly to the interest of these entertainments.

Mr. Walter Macfarren's "Tarentella," played with remarkable success by the composer at his concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms, is published by Duncan Davison and Co. The same publishers have recently brought out Vogler's "March of the Danish Guards."

"Rappelle Toi," romance, written by Alfred de Musset, composed by Mrs. Blanchard Jerrold (published by Foster and King), is an appropriate and charming setting of one of the most beautiful lyrics of the most lyrical of modern French poets. It is no small praise to say of "Rappelle Toi," that, of the three songs hitherto published by Mrs. Blanchard Jerrold, this last is the most graceful and the most melodious.

## OUR FEUILLETON.

### THE FABULIST'S LUCKY BLUNDER.

"My friend," wrote the ex-Minister Fouquet to La Fontaine, whom he had so often benefited, "you saw me at Vaux when I was at the height of my power. When you read this I shall be buried alive in a dungeon. After depriving me of my property and my liberty, my friends wish to take my head; and the King, deceived by them, will grant it to them, unless the only person who can save me undertakes to establish my innocence. This person is Mdle. de la Vallière. Give her the letter I send herewith. You will be more able and more willing to manage this than anyone—you who are the most faithful and the least suspected of all my friends."

"Fouquet in prison! Fouquet on the point of being executed!" sobbed La Fontaine, his sincere friend. "That shall never be. It is impossible; it is a dream."

Then, directly he recovered from his momentary stupefaction, he hastened to Mdme. La Sablière's, where he knew that all the courtiers who were not at Marly with the King would be assembled, and at once, and to the great scandal of all present, began to ask what news had been heard of Fouquet, and whether it was true that his Majesty was disposed to judge him severely.

This was a forbidden subject—so much so, that not only would no one answer the poor warmhearted poet, but he even found deprecatory glances directed at him from all sides.

"When does the King return from Marly?" asked La Fontaine.

No one knew.

"What will be the fate of poor Fouquet?" he inquired.

No one would say. He asked the ladies, he asked the gentlemen, he applied to those in favour with the King, and to those whom the King detested; but he could obtain no information on a subject which, by common consent, was proscribed. Molière and Mdme. La Sablière were the only persons present who understood and sympathised with the warmhearted man; but they really knew no more of Fouquet's fate than did La Fontaine himself.

The company had dined and dessert was served. Never had La Fontaine been so dull before, and it must be remembered that poets and writers generally are not tolerable in high society unless they are determined to be amusing. However, as soon as the dessert was put upon the table, La Fontaine coughed, and said gravely to the assembled guests,

"Ladies and gentlemen, I have a question of the greatest importance to propose to you."

"At last," said the guests. "I thought we should have him at last."

"We are going to have a discussion," said the savants.

"We are going to shine," said the wits.

"We are going to have compliments paid us," said the ladies.

Everyone paid the most scrupulous attention to the words of the worthy, but hitherto dull, La Fontaine.

At last he opened his lips.

"Can any of you tell me," he began, "when his Majesty will return from Marly, and what is the fate of the unfortunate Fouquet?"

The poor man forgot that he had already put those questions ten times to everyone present.

Mdme. de la Sablière and Molière exchanged a glance of intelligence and pity, but the rest of the guests preserved the most rigid silence both as to words and even as to looks.

Just then two young men burst into a loud laugh.

"By heavens! gentlemen, this is no laughing matter," thundered out the usually timid and reserved La Fontaine.

The young men were abashed, and answered not a word.

"What a noble man!" said Mdme. de Sablière to Molière. "He is as fine as your Alcibiades."

"M. Fouquet is accused of all sorts of crimes," continued the fabulist, with renewed courage, "but he is innocent of them all."

A shudder passed through the company. In spite of Molière, who tried to restrain him, the good La Fontaine said again,

"He is innocent; and I tell you so. And I will tell the King the same, and will defend him everywhere."

"Mad! evidently mad!" muttered one of the courtiers to his intimate friend who was sitting by his side.

"You were wanting me to recite some verses a little while ago," he went on. "I will recite you some now that I have composed on this very subject of Fouquet and his arrest."

And the poet read aloud his beautiful lines to the "Nymphs of Vaux," in which Fouquet is enthusiastically defended under the name of Oronte.

Mdme. de la Sablière gave the signal for applause, which soon became general. Whatever the company might think of Fouquet's affair, and the prudence of openly defending a disgraced Minister, there could be no two opinions as to the beauty of La Fontaine's verses.

Molière at that moment rose and spoke a few words to M. de la Cavoie, the least courtier-like of all the courtiers. It was of him that Louis XIV. once said, on seeing him in earnest conversation with Racine, "There is M. de Cavoie teaching Racine how to be a courtier, and Racine teaching M. de Cavoie how to be a poet. An excellent plan for making a bad poet and a bad courtier."

Nevertheless, M. de Cavoie was able to introduce La Fontaine to the King, and did so as soon as his Majesty returned. The Dauphin recognised the poet at once, and called out his name—a terrible sin against Court etiquette. The King frowned at the offender, the Princesses smiled, and La Fontaine fell at his Majesty's feet.

"Yes, Sir, I am La Fontaine," said the fabulist; "the most humble of your Majesty's subjects, and the most unhappy. I have come here to implore your Majesty's justice and clemency for M. Fouquet."

For a fortnight no one had dared to pronounce this name in the presence of the King. A deathlike silence reigned around, but, nevertheless, La Fontaine continued:—

"Pardon my ignorance of Court usages," he said, "and listen only to the dictates of your own generous heart. M. Fouquet has committed no crime. His enemies have dared to accuse him to your Majesty, but he is really innocent."

The King motioned to the guards, and was about to order the unfortunate fabulist into arrest when he saw that he held a paper in his hand. La Fontaine had resolved to offer to his Majesty his "Nymphs of Vaux." He had, in fact, composed it for that very purpose.

"Give me that paper," said the King. "What is it?"

"Some verses, Sir, that I venture to submit to your Majesty," said the fabulist, as he presented the paper.

The King unfolded it; started, frowned, read it from beginning to end, and then, in a voice thick with emotion, said to the petitioner,

"Withdraw. You shall learn M. Fouquet's fate afterwards."

Then the King rose from his seat, and it became evident now that he was in a violent passion.

"Ah!" exclaimed the fabulist, to himself, "What have I done? I have ruined my benefactor. My intercession will have been his destruction."

At length, however, La Fontaine remembered that he had still the letter for Mdle. de la Vallière. To her it was not difficult to procure an introduction, for he already knew her and esteemed her, as did everyone else who was acquainted with her, for her disinterestedness and her thoroughly good heart.

"She has more influence with the King than any of them," said he to himself. "She will speak to his Majesty, and my poor benefactor will yet be saved."

La Fontaine hastened, then, to Mdle. de la Vallière, and, taking a folded paper from his pocket, exclaimed, without losing time in any preliminaries,

"A letter, Mademoiselle, from M. Fouquet, now the most unhappy of mankind."

The favourite opened the paper, pale and trembling with emotion, and then began, with a more rattled look, which at length became a beneficent smile, to read the contents. La Fontaine was in raptures.

When she had finished, Mdle. de la Vallière said, with a look of delight,

"These verses are really charming. You, of course, wish me to present them to his Majesty?"

"Versez, Mademoiselle? No! It is a letter from M. Fouquet." "Excuse me; but here are the verses, and here is your signature at the end."

La Fontaine was in despair. He had given his verses to Mdle. de la Vallière! Then he must have given Fouquet's letter—that terrible, compromising letter—to the King!

"Good Heavens! is it possible?" exclaimed the favourite in a voice of terror when the poet explained to her what a terrible blunder he had committed.

And out ran La Fontaine, now again in a state of despair, and exclaiming, as he struck his forehead, "I have killed him! I have killed my benefactor!"

On leaving Mdle. de la Vallière's presence he, in fact, heard that Fouquet had been condemned to death. But he was determined to make one more effort to save him. He rushed to his friend M. de la Cavoie to solicit another presentation, determined to run any risk rather than let his benefactor suffer through his fault.

He explained to M. de la Cavoie how terrible and fatal a blunder he had committed, and was giving way to his grief and his despair, when suddenly an officer of the guard entered and asked whether M. de Cavoie knew where to find M. de la Fontaine?

"Here I am!" cried the poet, as he rose.

"His Majesty wishes to see you," said the officer. "Follow me!"

"Pardon me; pardon me, Sir!" cried the poet, when he found himself in the King's presence. "Let your vengeance fall on me alone, for I alone am to blame."

"Rise," said the King; "an hour since M. Fouquet was condemned to death."

La Fontaine shuddered with horror.

"But now I revoke the sentence. He will be imprisoned or banished; but his life is spared."

La Fontaine wept with joy.

"Sit down at that table," continued the King, "and communicate this news to your friend yourself."

La Fontaine collected all his strength, and wrote two hasty lines to his friend and benefactor to tell him that he was not to die.

The explanation of the mystery was simple enough. Fouquet's enemies had succeeded in persuading the King that Fouquet was his successful rival in the good graces of Mdle. de la Vallière. Now Fouquet's letter which had fallen into his hands by accident—evidently by accident—contained the following lines, which at once proved how far Fouquet was from being the successful lover of the lady who had now gained entire possession of the heart of the King.

"You alone can save me," said Fouquet, "by telling his Majesty the simple truth. You, who repelled my homage so disdainfully, know better than anyone that it was not carried very far, and that I obtained the copy of your portrait by a stratagem. . . . Pardon me, and you will be the cause of my being pardoned."

Thus, by a mere blunder, La Fontaine was destined to save his friend. The unexpected manner in which the letter had fallen into the King's hand convinced him of the truthfulness of its contents. Fouquet's punishment was still a very severe one; but the good La Fontaine, with all his naiveté, and awkwardness, and blundering, had saved his benefactor's life.

### THE PIPECLAY OFFICE.

But a few weeks since the Civil Service was thrown into great commotion. It was whispered that a scandal had occurred in one of the largest West-end offices; that two gentlemen had converted the department under their charge into a substitute for Baden-Baden, and that large sums of money had been lost and won between the officially sacred hours of ten and four. This was followed by a rumour that the offenders had been severely censured, and a few days later the newspapers contained an account of the transaction, adding that the two delinquents had been summarily dismissed the office. Petitions were sent in by the other clerks begging their stern chief to remit a part of the punishment, but without effect. The noble Lord had well considered his decision, and had no intention of altering it. A spirit of gambling had long existed in his "bureau," and it was high time to notice it. At last the great originator of this disgraceful habit was discovered in the person of the baker. This worthy, not satisfied with gaining a livelihood by selling mutton-pies and tolly, oranges and hardbake, had organised several lotteries to dispose of plum-cakes, geese, and revolvers. A policeman was sent for, and the unhappy vender of pastry was ignominiously ejected from the office. Such vigorous proceedings on the part of the Secretary of State produced a feeling of surprise and disgust. Never had such events occurred before. "The Pipeclay Office would cease to be respectable."

"The Circumlocution Department would be next attacked."

"Not a branch of the service would be safe from innovation." So said the employés, and the public took a savage delight in listening to their lamentations. It would be as well if this wholesome spirit of reform were carried into other parts of the office. Any of our readers who have been forced to communicate with this department will agree with us that the tone of the place is not what it should be.

You walk under the lion guarding the doorway, ascend the steps, and explain your business to a lazy messenger, who looks at you, and then beckons to a boy, who is enjoying a practical joke with a comrade, to whom you repeat your question. He says, "You must mean No. 311, Sir," and conducts you up staircases, along corridors, and through glass doors into a small room. You advance to a desk where a gentleman, apparently deeply interested in the *Times*, is seated. After waiting a couple of minutes you cough, and the reader jumps up with a start. "Beg your pardon, I'm sure," he says; "but the fact is I never can get through the last leader without falling asleep. Do anything for you, Sir?" You ask him to explain the meaning of the paragraph you point out in a letter you have received from the office. "Ah! you want Mr. Smith, sub-division, 1004. This is the Sword-knot Branch." A messenger is rung for, and you retrace your steps through glass doors, along corridors, down staircases, through the hall, and then, after ascending several flights of stone steps, you are shown into a room containing three gentlemen. Two of the number are discussing a plate of beef-steak placed on an extemporé dining-table, consisting of a pile of pay-lists and a dirty towel. You again repeat your question, and are referred to the third occupant of the room. This gentleman starts up from the fireplace, with a pork chop on the end of a steel fork. He courteously offers you a chair, tells you that he will be at your service directly, and continues to superintend the cooking of his dinner. After this little matter has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, he attends to you. The messenger has again made a mistake. You must walk along the corridor, turn to the right, ascend the staircase facing you, and enter the fourth room on the left. You become perplexed, and ask a shabby-looking man you meet on your way to direct you. He tells you that he is going to see Mr. Fitzherbert Plantagenet, who sits in Mr. Smith's department, and that you can follow him if you please. You enter the room together. A young gentleman in a well-cut coat and an elaborate watch-chain is holding a levée in one corner of the room, two others are writing private letters, a fourth is finishing the "Town Talk" that will appear in "The Blankshire Gazette and Little Poppleton Mercury" of next Saturday, and the "chief" is dozing over the minute-paper which has just been brought to him by a messenger. The young gentleman in the watch-chain, on seeing your companion, calls to the messenger and says, in an angry tone, "Binks, take that man to the policeman in the hall. Show him to him, and tell him never to admit him again; then turn him out!" The shabby-looking man, who murmurs something about "a little account," is then removed. You address the head of the room, and after an hour's conversation, he asks you to be good enough to call on Tuesday. He then will be able to explain what he meant by the reply he sent the day before yesterday, in answer to your letter of the 24th of August, 1863. After thanking him, you take your leave of the Pipe-clay office.—*British Army Review.*



## THE REV. BENJAMIN JOWETT.

THE name of the Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford has been prominently before the public for some years past. To those interested in academic education he had long been well known as a ripe and accomplished scholar and a diligent and successful teacher; but his name became familiar to the general public through his connection with that now famous work "Essays and Reviews." To that publication Professor Jowett contributed a paper on the interpretation of Scripture, which was thought by some to be tinged with free, if not heretical, opinions. This brought upon the Professor a certain degree of odium among the ultra-orthodox, both in the University and in the Church generally; and when a proposal was made to increase the endowment of the Greek chair—which remains at its original amount of £40, although that sum is admitted on all hands to be utterly inadequate—considerable opposition to the scheme was evinced. This opposition was overcome, however, so far at least as the resident members of the University were concerned, and a plan for increasing the endowment was agreed upon, with the understanding that no approval was thereby given to the opinions of the existing Professor. The scheme had to be submitted to the vote of the whole body of graduates of the University, resident and non-resident, and was rejected by a considerable majority, made up principally of non-residents. The Lord Chancellor then proposed to accomplish the object in view in another way, and during the present Session brought a bill into the House of Lords enacting that, in future, a stall in one of the cathedrals should be assigned to the occupant of the Greek chair, and providing that the first stall which became vacant should be thus appropriated. The proposal, though at first received with considerable approval, was ultimately rejected by their Lordships, mainly on the ground that it is the duty of the University properly to endow the chair, in consideration of certain privileges and advantages—some of which are of great value in a pecuniary point of view—granted to it by the Crown. So the result is that, because heterodox-fearing country clergymen will not allow the University to do its duty, and Parliament will not undertake that duty for it, Professor Jowett is still condemned to teach Greek and seem "passing rich on £40 a year," and that, too, in one of the richest Universities in the world. Mr. Jowett, however, has the consolation of being both highly popular and highly successful with his students, and the estimation in which he is held by persons beyond the narrow circles of university and clerical life was evinced by the crowds of eminent and distinguished individuals who flocked to the church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, last Sunday, where he preached on behalf of the Sunday and evening schools connected with the parish.

We find the following notice of Mr. Jowett in the last edition of "Men of the Time":—

"The Rev. Benjamin Jowett, M.A., Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford, is one of the family which has contributed many members to the ranks of the Evangelical clergy. They are of Yorkshire descent, having been settled at Manningham, near Bradford, about the beginning of the last century. Some notice of a former generation may be found in Pearson's 'Life of William Hay.' The father of Professor Jowett, who died at Tenby, in 1859, was the author of a metrical version of the Psalms of David. The subject of this memoir was born at Camberwell in 1817, and educated at St. Paul's School, under Dr. Sleath. He was elected to a scholarship at Balliol College, Oxford, in 1835, and subsequently to a fellowship in 1838. He is best known to the Oxford world as tutor of Balliol College, an office which he has held since 1842, and in the discharge of which he has gained the regard of many pupils and friends. He was appointed to the regius professorship of Greek, on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston, in 1855, having in the



THE REV. BENJAMIN JOWETT, REGIUS PROFESSOR OF GREEK IN THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

previous year been member of a commission which had under its consideration the mode of admission by examination to writer-ships in the Indian civil service, and of which the late Lord Macaulay was chairman. He is the author of a 'Commentary on the Epistles of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, Galatians, Romans' (Murray, first edition 1855, second edition 1859; 8vo, two vols.) He has also contributed an essay on 'The Interpretation of Scripture' to the well-known volume entitled 'Essays and Reviews.' He is understood to be engaged at present (1861) on an edition of the 'Republic' of Plato, which is shortly to appear."

## THE RETURN OF THE RE GALANTUOMO TO NAPLES.

OUR readers will remember that considerable fears were recently entertained of the loss of the Italian war-ship *Ré Galantuomo*,

which it was believed had been observed in distress in foreign waters. No news was heard of her whereabouts from the 13th of March to the 21th of April, during which time she was exposed to great danger of shipwreck.

The details of her disastrous voyage exhibit more peril than would have been sustained in battle, and the particulars which have been given by the crew may well have caused the observation of one of the junior officers that this representative of the Italian War Marine had received her baptism. On the 5th of September the vessel left Naples, and arrived at Gibraltar on the 13th. Whilst there, a violent hurricane compelled the use of all three anchors. After leaving Madeira, where they arrived on the 21st, the crew found themselves at thirty-four days' sale on the Atlantic with failing water-supply, and some little insubordination on board for want of enough to drink. On Oct. 27 they arrived at the Bermudas and took in supplies, leaving on the 30th of the same month and arriving at New York on Nov. 6. They stayed here till March 3, and on the 7th encountered a fearful storm, which is thus described by one of the seamen during their stay at the Azores:—

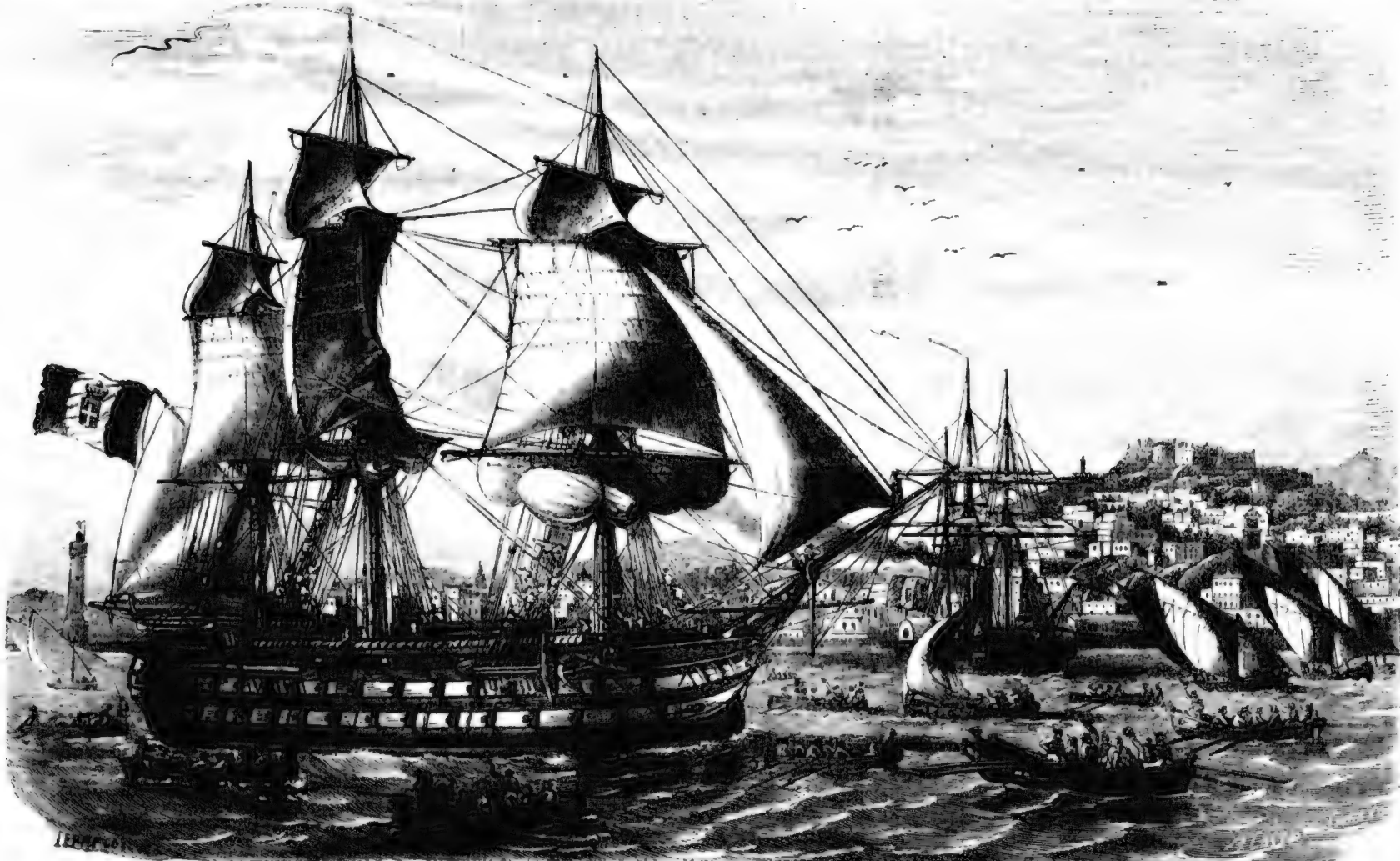
"On the night of the 7th of March all the winds came out and united in that sea, so that it seemed like the day of judgment. The sea appeared like the highest mountains in the world, and the vessel like a little bark. The sails roared like the cannons of a fort, and in a few moments were carried off by the wind; the vessel lay in the trough of the sea, and one of the masts was broken, falling on deck and wounding three sailors, while another mast was broken at the same time. While the vessel was thus rolling we thought of getting up steam, but we found her full of water, which, rising, put out the fires. We then gave ourselves up for dead, but worked away at six pumps, the water increasing. The captain then resolved to throw over the cannon, and eighteen of the second battery were thrown into the sea. Towards the evening of the 7th we saw a vessel and fired several shots from a bronze piece we had on board for assistance, asking her to remain near, so that we might embark on board of her if the weather permitted; but during the night the vessel disappeared, the weather became worse, and some, overcome by fatigue, wept; some prayed to God, some to the most holy Virgin and all the saints, our advocates; and some said there was no hope of being saved. At last, God had compassion on us; we worked courageously to draw off the water, and saw it diminish. We then directed our course to Nova Scotia and met with a vessel dismasted, and no living creature on board except a cat, which we could not catch. On the night of the 8th of March the wind sprang up again from S.W., and, as the water was gaining upon us, the captain, after consulting with the pilot and officers, bore away for the Azores, where we arrived in safety."

The vessel, on her arrival at Naples, was in a sadly shattered condition, and the sailors there concluded that "she ought, by rule, to have gone down." At the Azores and Gibraltar she was received with great cordiality, and it is unnecessary to say that by the Neapolitans her crew were received with great enthusiasm. It is singular that the Emperor Maximilian, who had purposely avoided every Italian port, was destined to be present at the arrival of the *Ré Galantuomo* in Gibraltar, and to witness the kind and cordial attentions rendered by the authorities and the population.

## WATERGATE BAY, NEAR NEWQUAY.

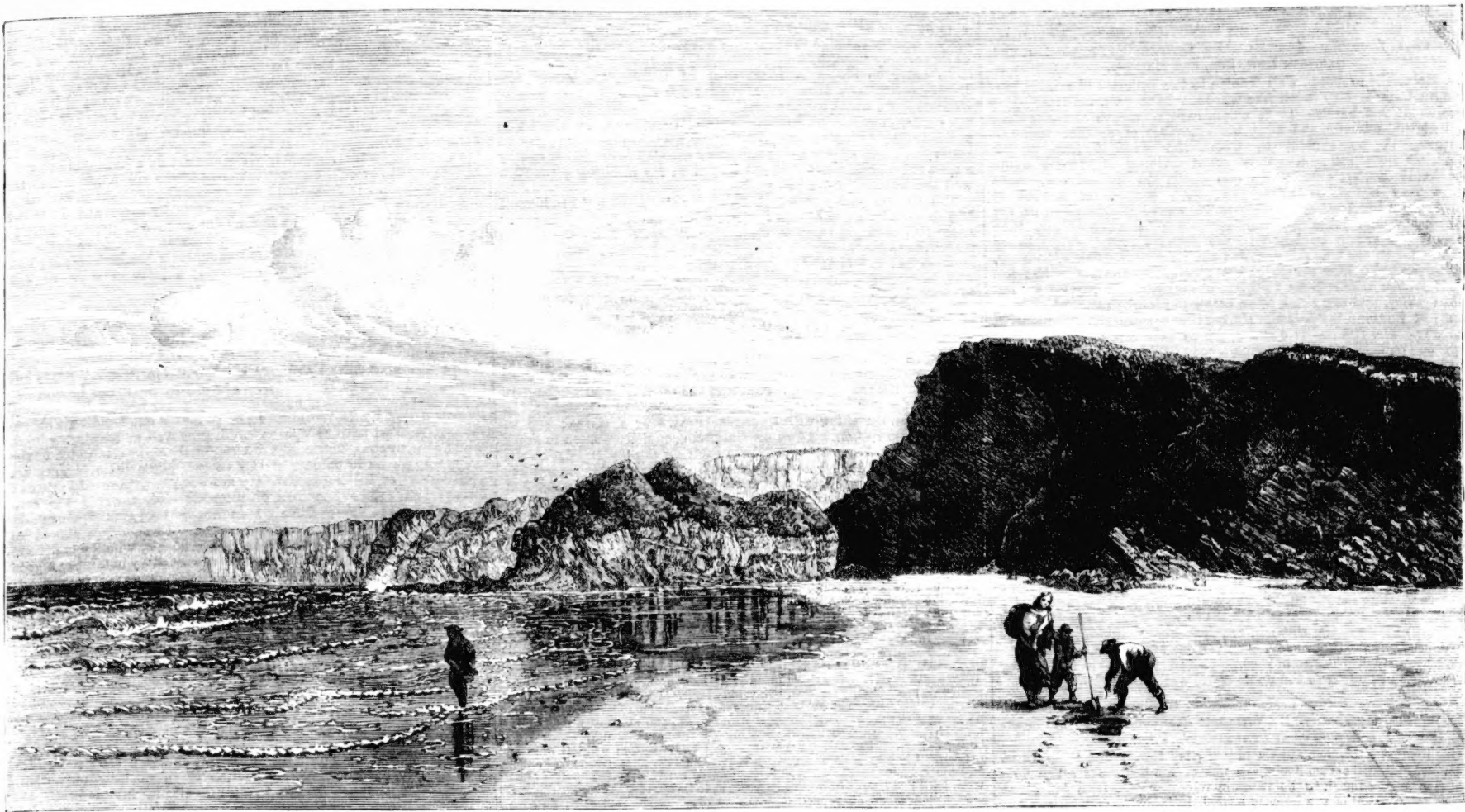
SURELY no one has failed to observe—and to observe with pleasure—in the first room of the Royal Academy Exhibition this year that most delightful coast-view by Mr. Mogford of which we this week publish an Engraving.

The tide is coming in briskly before a fresh breeze, just sufficient to comb the white manes of the seahorses into snowy crests. The



THE RETURN OF THE MISSING WAR-SHIP *RÉ GALANTUOMO* TO NAPLES.





WATER-GATE BAY, NEAR NEW QUAY, CORNWALL.—(FROM A PICTURE BY J. MOGFORD, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

bright, sparkling sea of the Cornish coast, so peculiarly beautiful for its emerald hue, is racing up over a wide, level shore of warm sand. It spreads into a glassy sheet over the thirsting beach, and tempts the idle urchin to plunge barefoot into its cool shallows. On its smooth surface are mirrored the grey, sea-beaten rocks, hung with tresses of green weed, and the peaceful, blue depths of heaven, where float the white clouds, their soft fleeces here and there curled and wafted away by the eccentric upper-currents of air.

In the foreground a group of fishers are busily digging for bait. Beyond them those winged fishers, the seagulls, gather in flocks along the tide-line, or wheel above the incoming wave, piping shrilly and watching eagerly for their finny prey. Above, on the grass-crowned ledges of rock walling the coast, the sheep are nibbling at the short, dry herbage; and over the streams glows the warm sunlight, throwing long, cool, purple shadows, and making dim nooks and caves at the foot of the cliff, wherein we long to lounge and

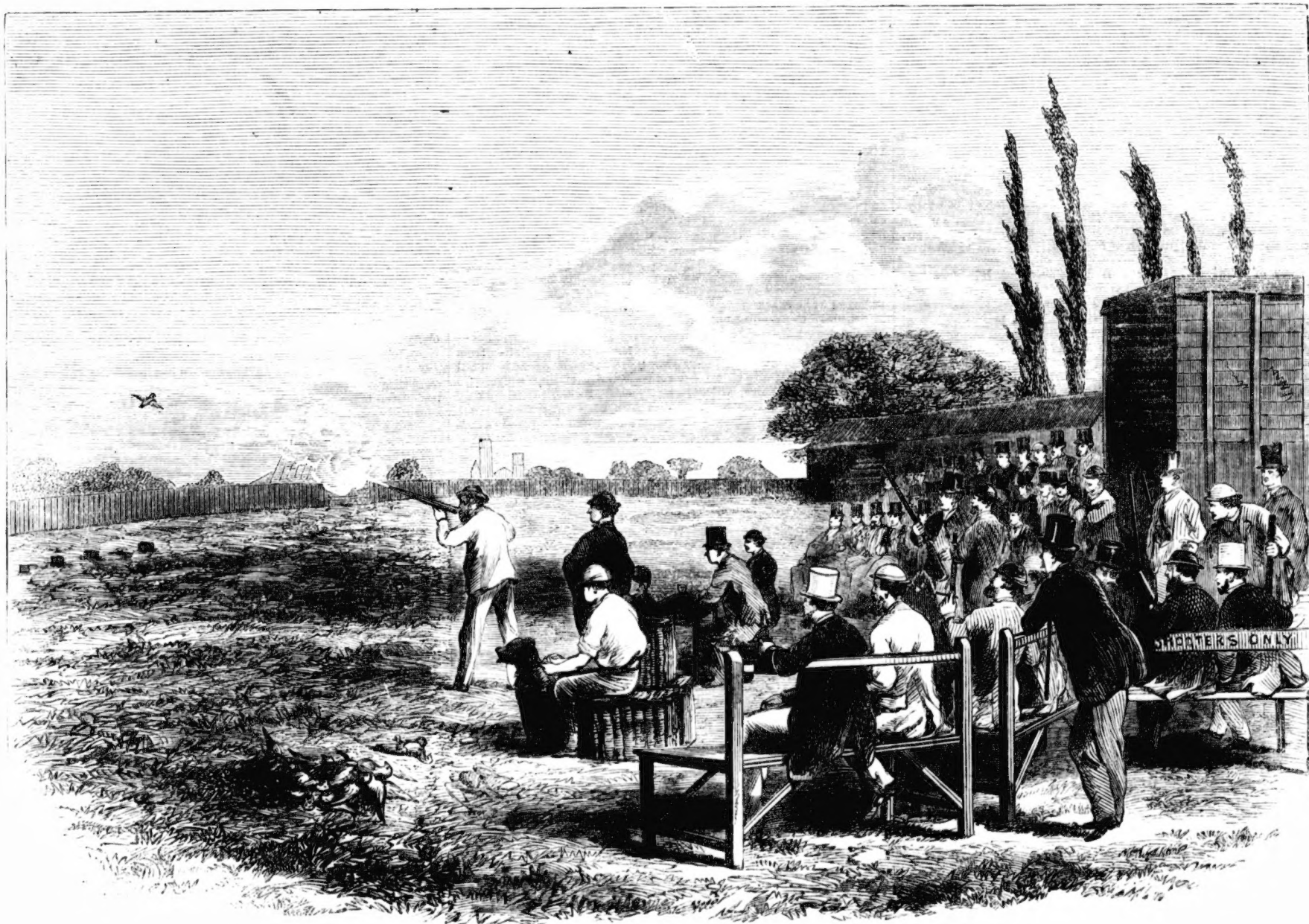
listen to the shrill whistle of the seamew and the distant tinkle of the sheep-bell.

Mr. Mogford has thoroughly appreciated and entered into the spirit of loveliness which makes the rare old Cornish coast so dear to artists and poets. His picture, beyond the high artistic merits it boasts—clever handling, a good eye for colour and form, and a power of painting light and atmosphere—possesses such a charm of reality that we feel less that we are looking at a clever picture than enjoying an actual glimpse of nature under its loveliest aspect.

#### PIGEON-SHOOTING AT HORNSEY-WOOD HOUSE.

THE taste for sports of all kinds seems to be greatly on the increase among the British public, and the fancy for pigeon-shooting has of late especially developed itself. A few years ago this sport was practised principally by youths and persons of doubtful respecta-

bility; but now, even grave senators do not disdain to participate in it. In connection with pigeon-shooting, Hornsey-wood House has long been well known; but it has now become quite famous for the matches there decided. The most important and interesting match of the season hitherto was that between members of the two sides of the House of Commons a few days ago. The champions of the Government were—Hon. Major A. Anson, L. Dillwyn, Esq., Sir G. Colthurst, Hon. G. Heathcote, G. Onslow, and A. Symonds, Esqs.; while the Opposition was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. H. Annesley, Earl of Bective, D. Damer, Esq., Sir T. Hesketh, Hon. R. Hill, and Captain Hon. H. Wyndham. The shooting was generally good, the Opposition being the victors by 50 birds to 47. The tankard, however, went to the Government side—Mr. Dillwyn and Mr. Seymour having tied, killing ten birds each; and, in shooting off, the former gentlemen won at the first round.



PRIZE PIGEON-SHOOTING AT HORNSEY-WOOD HOUSE.



## Literature.

*Soundings from the Atlantic.* By OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES. Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

Dr. Holmes is probably well known to the majority of our readers, and his book is very much like what we have been accustomed to receive at his hands. It is a collection of essays and sketches, full of wit, humour, and that pleasant sort of sparkle which is neither. A war-sketch, in which the wounded man is Dr. Holmes's own son; a paper about artificial legs; one about the great Boston organ; and one about the human ear, make up a very agreeable miscellany. An account of a visit to the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Punsters contains some of the happiest verbal jokes we ever read—not better, however, than some which are to be found in the author's previously-published writings. In the war essay, called the "Inevitable Crisis," we see, with deep pain, how much the better intellect of America has felt what it has taken to be wrong in the *manière d'être* (we do not mean policy, and can think of no better phrase than the one we have used) of England towards the United States since the beginning of the war. Dr. Holmes is quite right to take comfort in what we long ago pointed out in reviewing a book of Mrs. Stowe's—namely, that men like Mill, and Goldwin Smith, and Francis Newman, are on the side of the North. To this he may, if he pleases, add that a great many thinking people who began by siding with the South have, upon examination of the question, had to change sides, with whatever regret, and with how earnest a desire that this cruel, sickening strife were ended somehow. At all events, generous minds in this country, whichever side they take, will know how to allow for the irritation under which Northerners like Dr. Holmes have to look at our way of regarding the conflict. On the other hand, we hope he will forgive us for saying that he is unjust to England—to the Government, and to the people both; and that he is entirely on the outside of our internal politics. We do assure him that the "Throne" and the "standing army" are not the bugbears he supposes them to be, even to those among us who are Republicans. We cannot help saying that even his way of talking of these matters reminds us of some well-known passages in "Martin Chuzzlewit." Dr. Holmes is welcome to our sincere admission (in exchange) that we, the English, are probably as much on the outside of American institutions as he is on the outside of ours.

We have much pleasure in recommending the book, and in adding our tribute of honour to the noble spirit which runs through it.

*The Goldworthy Family.* By WILLIAM GILBERT. 2 vols. Freeman. The Rosary; a Legend of Wilton Abbey. Freeman.

Our readers know the author of "Shirley Hall" and "Margaret Meadows." These two books are not of his best, but all that he writes is good enough to be recommended. Apart from his great merits as an artist of the homely school, he is always innocent; and, while contriving to reconcile us to poor human nature, never plays fast and loose with conscience. No man that ever wrote novels has shown keener, or, rather, closer, moral insight; but the reader never feels outraged, and is never taught to despair. How different in effect is writing like this from that wearisome "chaffing" of human imperfection which might well dispose a man to believe in the monkey origin of the human race or to go out and hang himself!

"The Rosary" is the best of the two books, and it is, certainly, a miracle of minute, and yet broad and truthful, realisation. We have read it several times, and at each reading have found some little touch to smile at which we had overlooked before. The story is contained in the diary of a tempted wife, who surmounts the temptation, and at last takes the veil, after her husband's death. A difficult, dangerous subject? Yes, "dangerous" to some pens; but a sweeter, wholesomely never came from human pen than "The Rosary." The close print and the general get-up are greatly against it. But, so far as externals go, Mr. Gilbert's works, like his mere style, are really very odd. They remind one of a plain uncle, of the old school, with square-toed shoes, and a thick silver watch in a fob, with a bunch of seals depending; the sort of man whom you would expect to ask for stale bread at an ordinary.

We regret to observe that Mr. Gilbert's publisher adopts the undignified practice of printing laudatory "notices of the press" of other "works by the same author" at the end. It is an ungainly thing to do, and wholly unnecessary. The present journal is quoted as having claimed for the author of "Margaret Meadows, a Tale for the Pharisees," a genius "second only to Defoe;" but we are certain the ILLUSTRATED TIMES was not quite so ungrammatical as all that comes to! That claim, however, has since been abundantly satisfied by critics of all schools, and we have heard an able man insist that this singular writer "beats Defoe on his own ground." Certainly, it must be a strong-nerved man that can get through "Margaret Meadows" at a sitting.

We ought to say that in "The Goldworthy Family" the author gives us quite a new type of governess, which is refreshing. What does Mr. Gilbert say to exploring governess-world a bit? The by-play of the love-making between the lady and the Curate in the closing chapters, with its relentless yet cheerful reality, is a fair, though not a first-rate, specimen of Mr. Gilbert's pleasant manner.

*Glimpses of Real Life, as seen in the Theatrical World and in Bohemia: being the Confessions of Peter Paterson, a Strolling Comedian.* Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo.

Here is a book the title of which will attract a large number of readers, since it treats of a subject of which very few people are tired; a subject which has about it a kind of fascination for those quiet, respectable people who have always had a hankering to know something of that great unrecognised world, the No Man's Land where live the "adventurers," the "amusing classes," the "people who live by their wits," or, more widely, "the Bohemians."

The truth is, that Bohemia is an altogether undefined territory, and that cautious respectability which sees no reliable trade or profession outside the ordinary buying and selling of commodities, or the functions of Law, Physic, and Divinity, is inclined to regard a great many hardworking, honest people as clever scoundrels, who defy conventionalism only that they may live in alternate poverty and extravagance. It so happens, however, that in the little-known world which lies apart from ordinary life, there have been scholars and gentlemen who, while waiting for that recognised place in the republic of letters or of art to which they were slowly winning their way, have by no means despised the government of society. It is true that they were put to many of those inconvenient shifts which wait on poverty and are all the more bitter to the man of refinement who meets them with a sort of defiant courage; but, instead of being below the mere conventionalism of respectability because they kept their own society—their own select corner of Bohemia, these men were in reality above the sneers of the more fortunate; they had no more to do with the Bohemia of respectable imagination than had their predecessors to do with "Grub-street," and, while laughing at the pretensions of the prosperous representatives of the "respectable" side of society, were in reality no more impatient of good manners than of whole garments or clean linen.

We speak of this section of what was once included in "Bohemia" in the past tense for its numbers are few, the new conditions of periodical literature in our time having admitted them into the regular ranks of authorship and made them members of a new profession, which even the duldest respectability has learned to recognise. The same change is now in progress with regard to actors. The "poor player," in the sense of beggary, is soon (it may be hoped) to be a character expunged from every "acting copy" of the drama of society, for the actors have met respectability on its own ground, and, while paying rents and taxes with admirable punctuality in accredited cheques drawn upon real bankers, have set a good example to the non-amusing classes by subscribing with liberal charity for the relief of their poorer brethren.

Apart from these distinctions, however, there is still a Bohemia—a vague border-land, the secrets of which are interesting, since they

disclose a mode of life quite away from ordinary avocations, a life often laborious, poverty-stricken, and full of anxious care, romantic only because of its artificial accessories and its strange and painful experiences unenviable to those who have seen its reality and judged of its seeming freedom.

In order to obtain a great deal of information about this Bohemianism, and some very vivid impressions of that side of theatrical life which forms a part of it, we can cordially recommend the reader to accept the guidance of the "Strolling Comedian" who is the author of the volume now before us. In about 350 pleasant pages the whole nakedness of the sorry country is disclosed, and by a series of amusing chapters the habits of its strolling population well and minutely described.

The glimpses of that life with which Mr. "Paterson" has himself had so close an acquaintance include nearly every variety, from the successful manager to poor, wandering *Paillasse*, from the broken tragedian to the wealthy and speculative showman; and, whether he describes the method of getting up a grand pantomime or the way in which a country district is "worked" with a travelling caravan, he never fails to be amusing. Such a book is not easy to criticise, for it cannot but entertain the reader if it be truthful to its subject and lively in its style. Mr. Paterson's volume possesses both these qualifications, and has also a wonderful piquancy of its own which, while it does not go so far as *staginess*, is yet suggestive of actors' conversation, so that at times one seems rather to be listening than reading. Amongst the most interesting chapters are those devoted to a description of "boothings," or "tenting;" in other words, travelling with a canvas theatre or a circus; and as Mr. Paterson has, by his own confessions, occupied a station in every variety of "professional" life—from aspiring to play Hamlet on the stage to sustaining the part of Clown in the ring—his experiences may be taken for granted, even when he discourses of the method of training "trick horses" and of the manufacture of pig-faced ladies.

Appropos of circus life, he says:—

There is one remarkable point of circus economy worth thinking of. How is it that we never find in the bills of the national hippodrome such announcements as we find frequently in the bills of the theatres? For instance, we never find that "The Courier of St. Petersburg" is to be performed by "a young gentleman—his first appearance on horseback;" or that "Miss Cora Montessor" will make her debut on the corde elastique. No. Circus people never make "first appearances" in the common sense of the term; they are indigenous to the sawdust, as their fathers and mothers were before them. They must be all bred to the work. The artists of the circus, in most instances, fulfil a long bondage of gratuitous labour—fourteen years, generally, and in some cases twenty-one. Their fathers and mothers being in "the profession" before them, they commence their studies at, perhaps, two years of age. I have seen a score or two of tiny tumblers hard at work at the tender period of existence. There is no going into the circus without preparation. On the stage of a theatre an ignorant pretender who knows nothing of the passions may pretend to embody them, every one, however (though I know better) without hurting himself. Let him make as free with a horse as with King Lear and he will find his collar-bone the worse for it. Consequently, all circus people must work hard and long. How hard they work, to be sure!

But then, as an old acrobat once said to me, "It is practice as does it; once at it they don't stop, but must go on to the end." And so the child becomes a father to the man, and the infant Romeo in due time swells into the great Professor Montague de Capulet, who, as a matter of course, exhibits his glittering spangles before all the crowned heads of Europe. The acrobat child is quick to learn, for all his faculties are preternaturally sharpened by rubbing against those about him. When the children of society are at school he is drawing money to "the concern," and can pick up pins with the corners of his eyes as he bends back and over, and can throw fore-springs, head-springs, and lion-taps; can, in short, do a hundred odd things to earn applause and money. It is no joke to rehearse with bodily hard work all day and then perform at night. I have had to change my clothes thirteen times in the course of a night, because, when not otherwise engaged, I had to dress in a smart uniform and stand at the entrance-way, to be ready to hold balloons, garters, poles, and whatever else was required. All who enter a circus are engaged for "general utility."

We have said that a serious, if not a melancholy, tone pervades the book, notwithstanding its lively and entertaining style. After having listened to his "confessions," the reader will scarcely be surprised to find that the ex-strolling comedian resembles most other actors in saying "to all would-be dramatic heroes"—"Don't go upon the stage."

*Military Ends and Moral Means.* By COLONEL JAMES J. GRAHAM, Author of "The Art of War." Smith, Elder, and Co.

A detailed account of this large and interesting work would be more likely to awaken—if the word may be oddly used—sleep than gratitude in the readers, whilst to the author it would do no kind of justice. Therefore it seems advisable to rush into the opposite extreme, and print little more than the bare headings of chapters by way of intimating the character of Colonel Graham's book. He treats of "Moral Ascendancy," showing how every man living must be an officer or in the ranks. A chapter on the "Theory of Enlistment" records distinguished opinions scarcely favourable towards those who enlist, and which opinions are but very slightly shared by Colonel Graham himself. The subject of standing armies is treated and the system strongly advocated, and chapters on "Military Eloquence" and "Influence of Music," which follow, may at least be called strange. Eloquence is a "moral means," but surely it belongs to the chapter on "Moral Ascendancy," since eloquence is always admitted to rule the world; whilst army music, which inspires the ranks, may also claim to inspire officers, and the music is played not by the fighting ranks but by the non-fighting ranks. The remaining chapters—on Causes, Forms, and Policy of War, Stratagema, Convoys, Command, Mutinies, Spies, and Military Duties—will be chiefly valuable to the military student. They are well written, and contain clear instruction and opinion, constantly backed up by historical and anecdotal quotation from authorities ancient and modern. "Military Ends and Moral Means" may claim to be a soldier's book and a civilian's also. To proceed, and to finish, with the hasty kind of description, we may say that there are four hundred and fifty pages, and that there is not one which does not contain something interesting and worth knowing.

*Three Days of a Father's Sorrow.* A Book of Consolation. From the French of FELIX BUNGEIER. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Is it possible to conceive a bereaved parent taking up a book that is, *ex professo*, consoling? We cannot speak for everybody, but certainly we can't conceive it. We believe the experience of grief is that it picks up its comfort here and there, in a desultory way, as it finds the flowers in the path. But who can consult a manual of comfort as one might a "Manual of Social Duties," or "Carving," or "Etiquette?"

No doubt minds differ. Probably there are people in the world who may find this "book of consolation" really consoling. It seems to us, however, that the best things which it contains are precisely such as make old wounds bleed afresh.

We never read of "consoling" influence without thinking of an old French anecdote, which we may be excused for quoting, serious as the topic is. It is of a nobleman (we forget who, as well we may, for we saw the story in an old number of the *Mirror* when about seven years old) who, whenever he lost a friend or relative, used to have pigeons for dinner. He maintained that the flesh of those birds had a consoling virtue, and said, "I invariably observe that, after having eaten two, I rise from table much less mournful."

The translator of this book modestly apologises for his (or her) work. It was quite unnecessary; the work is very well done.

*The Jest Book: the Choicest Anecdotes and Sayings.* Selected and Arranged by MARK LEMON. Macmillan and Co.

A Joo Miller collection seems a strange volume to add to so chaste a series as the "Golden Treasury." Nevertheless, here it is: a handsome, portly little volume, brimful of the best sayings, adorned with a charmingly executed vignette by Mr. Charles Keene, and backed up by the name of Mr. Mark Lemon, editor of *Punch*. In an amusing preface Mr. Lemon explains how, with large-hearted liberality, he has admitted everything in the way of wit according to the many definitions of the many best authorities; and so it may

be concluded that almost all the folly extant has been shot flying. "Of course," says the editor, "every one will miss some pet jest from this collection, and, as a consequence, declare it to be miserably incomplete." But this is unlikely. On the contrary, the reader will here and there be astonished at Mr. Lemon's liberality in giving the same story twice over, but generally to the same effect. The reader will also feel astonished at the editor's sense of delicacy towards the departed, instanced by the common practice of putting unmistakable names with dashes instead of vowels—Spencer Perceval, for instance—as if the son, other relatives, and friends of the statesman would find their feelings hurt by a harmless anecdote fifty-two years after the assassination. There are pages about Sir Boyle Roche in the collection; but once he is, with grave reticence, described as Sir B— R—. Epigrams by Prior and Pope are unacknowledged, and one by Byron is attributed to Rogers. Surely, in these matters a little more care and taste might have been displayed. As it is, the collection is undoubtedly the best extant; but, as undoubtedly, the editing is as slovenly a piece of work as was ever effected by indolence.

*Woman in France during the Eighteenth Century.* By JULIA KAVANAGH. A New Edition. With Eight Portraits. Smith, Elder, and Co.

A new edition of Miss Kavanagh's "Woman in France" needs but short introduction to the reader. For some years it has been established in reputation, and customers have never been found wanting for new editions. In its latest form it makes one handsome octavo volume, printed with an eye to solidity as well as beauty, and embellished with steel engravings of eight of the most celebrated of the ladies who form the subject of the book. These little biographies and sketches of history and society are written with great taste and literary skill. They are full of interest; and, towards the conclusion, when the French Revolution forms the background, the figures become instinct with life and animation. These pages should be read by the many amongst the lighter students who have not yet met them. They will find themselves rewarded by obtaining a good idea of a state of society never again likely to appear on earth.

*Stimulants and Narcotics; their Mutual Relations. With Special Researches on the Action of Alcohol, Ether, and Chloroform on the Vital Organism.* By FRANCIS E. ANSTIE, M.D., M.R.C.P. Macmillan and Co.

Dr. Anstie's is a name which is generally becoming known to a wide circle of people as that of a cautious and very intelligent physician; ready to receive new ideas, but not ready to be misled by fanatical attempts to build over-large conclusions on narrow grounds of observation. His manner as an author is obnoxious to criticism; for his style is a little stilted, and he is too much given to long preliminary flourishes which mean nothing particular, besides being inclined to go too far afield in laying down his approaches to the main topic. But we can cordially recommend this book, not only to medical men, but to the general reader.

Is alcohol good, or is it not? Dr. Anstie has collected the facts and thought out the arguments which tend to show that it is good; and he makes out a very strong case. He tells some startling stories—well authenticated all, and many of them within his own knowledge—of men and women who have almost, or entirely, lived on spirits for great lengths of time; and he produces proof that, in some of the examples given, none of the alcohol was given off from the system—the conclusion being, of course, that it was all absorbed. Nothing, however, that any doctor in the world can tell us can well be more astonishing than what some of us know personally of the daring whisky practice of mothers and nurses in Scotland when rearing very weakly babies—a sort of practice adopted, as some of us are distinctly aware, by educated and well-to-do persons, and with striking success.

There are very few thinking people who have not at some time or other asked whether it is really true that all use of "stimulants" is necessarily followed by "reaction." Common experience says distinctly no. Over and over again we have settled for ourselves (as others have no doubt done) that the effect of a "fillip" may be quite permanent. That it should be so is, in truth, the hypothesis of all medication; while, as a matter of fact, a pulse which has been raised from 55 to 65 by "stimulants" does not necessarily go back to 55 after a time, much less to 50.

The worst of saying things like these is that the very people who are in danger from the abuse of them are pretty certain to remember and quote them in the wrong place. But the truth must be spoken, and, in the long run, it can do no harm.

One word more. We are constantly being told of the wonderful properties of a South American plant called coca (not cocon, or cacao). This plant is said to have the power of sustaining the strength, even in the absence of other food; so that the person eating it can undergo almost superhuman fatigue with comparative ease. Very well; but why don't you import it, gentlemen, instead of talking so much about it, or in addition to talking so much about it? There are many reasons for fetching it over to Europe. Here you are, founding conclusions upon its presumed qualities; when, for anything you know, the testimonials may be false, and coca may be worth no more than *Ignatia amara* for the purposes for which it is recommended. Again, it is really a question of common humanity. Instead of writing articles about the diseases of overworked people, try and bring over to this country the astonishing tonic which will make it next to impossible to overwork anybody.

*Crinoline in our Parks and Promenades, from 1730 to 1864.* London Edward Philpott, Piccadilly.

Trade journalism has now become an institution so fully recognised that it is scarcely surprising to discover the growth of a regular trade literature; and in this there is, perhaps, after all, a decided advantage, since the topics of which it treats are pretty sure to be explained by experienced persons who make up for their literary shortcomings by undoubted knowledge of their subjects. The author of the volume now lying before us has taken up a theme of such wide and constantly extending interest that it might fairly have overwhelmed any ordinary commentator; but there is nothing to which one may not become accustomed; and, although familiarity has not in this instance produced its proverbial contempt of the subject under consideration, the awe of the writer is mitigated by the constant usage of the manufacturer.

Whatever may be our own private opinion of the present fashion (and we confess that we cannot regard the bulge of an extended petticoat as an improvement on Hogarth's line of grace and beauty) the writer of the descriptions which accompany the series of plates in this volume has contrived to be amusing and instructive at the same time. The plates themselves are reproduced from authentic engravings of the various periods the fashions of which they represent, and will afford no little amusement in family circles.

It is scarcely surprising, all circumstances considered, that the book should conclude with unqualified approval of "these present graceful affects of clothing," and we are willing to admit that "saneftectum," "gemma," or "endina" are less hideous than the whalebone and wadding contrivances of our great-grandmothers; but we can very heartily respond to that moderation for which the author himself stipulates in the dimensions of either. To be plain, there is no exception whatever to the nuisance of too-expansive crinolines, and any increase in their present volume and rigidity would necessitate a reconstruction of all our social habits—a series of new footways, the abandonment of all present means of locomotion, the permanent enlargement of public buildings, and the use of closed fire-grates. However, we are not at present desirous to add any ill-natured protests to those which have already proved utterly unavailing. Blame, ridicule, denunciation, and even suffering have been useless against the tyrannous exactions of fashion. We are at least willing to own that this record of the use and progress of crinoline (which, by-the-by, was discovered by Captain Cook amongst the fascinating savages of Owhyhee) will effect, by judicious praise, a reformation which will be assisted by recent inventions.



CHARTERED BY THE



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